FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 SEPTEMBER 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian planes bombarded an oil installation 245 km inside northern Iraq as well as a radar station in Irbil region 6 September, according to a military communique cited by IRNA. In a Friday prayers sermon reported by Tehran radio, President 'Ali Khamene'i said 80 percent of the 'Ayn Zalah oil installation was destroyed by the Iranian attack. While claiming that Iranian oil exports have not been affected by Iraqi raids on Khark Island, Khamene'i said "devastating" retaliatory strikes will continue as long as exports from Khark are endangered. However, a military source cited by INA denied that Iran inflicted any damage on Iraqi installations, adding that two Iranian planes which tried to penetrate Iraq's borders dropped their bombs in a valley a short distance from the border. The source dared Khamene'i to send anyone he chose to see any damage from a raid.

Meanwhile, Iraqi planes dropped another 8 tons of explosives on Khark Island during raids 6 and 7 September, according to a military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Iraqi planes also hit a "large" maritime target near the Iranian coast 7 September, the communique said. An Iraqi military spokesman cited by Voice of the Masses radio said Iraq will continue to attack Khark Island until its vital installations are destroyed.

IRNA reported that Iran launched a 5-hour infiltration operation in Bakhtaran Province 9 September resulting in at least 180 Iraqi casualties. Earlier, Iran "liberated" 34 sq km of its territory and inflicted "high casualties" on enemy troops during an offensive in the west, IRNA reported. Meanwhile, Iraq claimed in a military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio that it occupied a "vital" vantage point on its northeastern borders 7 September, although a military communique cited by IRNA said the Iraqi offensive was defeated.

In another development, Iranian troops released an Italian cargo ship 6 September after fully inspecting its cargo, IRNA reported. An Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman cited by the agency denied reports that the ship was seized in Saudi Arabia's territorial waters. Meanwhile, the commander of the Iranian Navy warned that Iran will not allow ships carrying cargo destined for Iraq to use the territorial waters of neighboring Persian Gulf countries, according to an IRNA report citing *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI*. Earlier, Tehran radio reported that patrol units detained two foreign vessels which violated Iran's territorial waters 5 September and were gathering intelligence for Iraq.

Lebanon

Syria has expressed "reservations" about the Lebanese request for Syrian military intervention to curb the security breakdown in west Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio disclosed in a report on Education Minister Salim al-Huss' 8 September talks with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam in Damascus. Prime Minister Rashid Karami had called for Syrian intervention in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio following a 7 September meeting with Al-Huss, Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, and Defense Minister 'Adil 'Usayran. Stressing the need for an effective force to guarantee the implementation of security agreements, he maintained that "only the Syrian forces can perform this role."

Meanwhile, a Syrian force arrived in Zahlah 7 September, the Voice of Lebanon noted, and a Syrian official announced that the road west from Zahlah to Duhur al-Shuwayr was open and free of militiaroadblocks.

In Beirut, Syrian observers will man five fixed positions around the Burj al-Barajinah Palestinian refugee camp in an attempt to prevent fighting in the area, Beirut radio announced 9 September. The clashes between Amal and Palestinian gunmen had continued over the weekend, with Voice of Lebanon radio citing reports of over 200 casualties in the new round of fighting since 3 September. Baghdad Voice of PLO radio held Amal responsible for a 5 September massacre of 19 Palestinians in the Harat Hurayk area near Burj al-Barajinah while a Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) official cited by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio announced that Amal has arrested the perpetrator of the crime. The PSP official also confirmed reports of a clash between Amal and PSP militia, though he described this as an "isolated incident" that has been "remedied." PSP leader Walid Junblatt accused "a third party" of seeking to cause an estrangement between himself and Amal leader Nabih Birri, according to Beirut radio, and he also announced the PSP's intention to withdraw its gunmen from "certain parts" of Beirut.

In another development, Beirut radio revealed that President Amin al-Jumayyil will visit Saudi Arabia 9 September following his recent talks with officials in the FRG.

PLO

Talks between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Jordan's King Husayn 7 September touched on coordination for the coming phase of joint Jordanian-Palestinian action, Amman radio reported. 'Arafat had expressed concern about the Burj al-Barajinah situation in a statement on his arrival in Amman, noting that the PLO has sent an urgent memorandum to the Arab League on the subject. The PLO leader also commented on his 3 September talks with Egyptian official Usamah al-Baz at Cairo airport, according to Radio Monte Carlo, viewing the discussions as a "good opportunity" and affirming that the Egyptian side was "responsive" both on political issues and on matters concerning Palestinians residing in Egypt.

Israel

The U.S. Administration has changed its stand toward the PLO and is pushing to hold a meeting with a joint Jordanian-

Palestinian delegation, Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio following his meeting with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

At a Cabinet session reported by Jerusalem radio, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told ministers about increased IDF activities in the territories. Emphasizing that only the army will be responsible for law and order in the territories, he expressed his objections to civil guard or private vigilante groups being organized by settlers.

Afghanistan

A Bakhtar Afghan Airlines plane was shot down by Afghan rebels 4 September, killing all 52 passengers aboard, Kabul radio reported. The plane was hit by a U.S.-made missile after taking off from Qandahar Airport. In another report, the radio said "satanic nests" of rebels were "completely eliminated" around Khowst. Meanwhile, Afghan rebels sent reinforcements toward Khowst to wage a second counterattack against Soviet and DRA forces, according to a Riyadh radio report citing Afghan mujahidin sources. An earlier report by the radio said Soviet forces had begun to withdraw from some areas in eastern Afghanistan after more than a week of intense fighting.

In another development, Afghanistan summoned the Pakistani charge d'affaires in Kabul and rejected a protest that DRA forces shelled Pakistani territory 24-31 August, BAKHTAR reported.

Sudan

The Sudanese People's Liberation Army-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLA-SPLM), pursuing a pledge to begin talks with all political forces in Sudan, has set out its views on national dialogue in a written reply to a letter from Prime Minister al-Jazuli Da'fallah, according to a SPLA High Command statement broadcast by the clandestine Radio SPLA 7 September. Responding to a SPLA High Command request that the Transitional Military Council (TMC) publicly guarantee the safety of SPLA messengers who are delivering the reply to the Sudanese Army garrison commander in Nasir, Defense Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah said the TMC would offer all safety guarantees to the envoys, according to SUNA. The Armed Forces General Command affirmed that security measures had been taken and an envoy had been appointed to receive the message at Nasir garrison, the agency announced. Reacting to the new SPLA-SPLM position, Deputy Prime Minister Samuel Aru called it a "good beginning," SUNA reported.

Meanwhile, ousted President Ja'far Numayri is currently in Paris and the Sudanese Embassy there has asked France to officially explain his visit, according to a KUNA report citing the Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS*.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak met with the new cabinet under Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi following constitutional oath-taking ceremonies 7 September, according to a statement by the information minister broadcast by Cairo radio. The president said Egypt's urgent problems require "redoubled efforts," urged closer coordination among government departments, and stressed the need for sustained security and stability in the country.

Libya

Relations With Tunisia — Libya summoned the Tunisian charge d'affaires and protested a statement by the Tunisian secretary of state for national security on the detention of three alleged Libyan saboteurs, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported. A source in Libya's justice department cited by the radio called the Tunisian allegations "mere fabrications." In another development, Tunisia announced that it will close the Tunisian school in Tripoli as well as Libyan elementary and secondary chools in Tunisia, according to Tunis radio. Meanwhile, JANA reported that Tunisian authorities ordered a freeze on bank accounts of Libyans expelled from Tunisia.

Fighting in Chad — A spokesman for Goukouni Oueddei's rebel forces denied a Chadian Government statement that violent clashes occurred recently between the rebels and Libyan troops in Faya Largeau, AFP reported.

Kuwait

Kuwait will use Soviet missiles which are no less capable than missiles it tried to obtain from the United States, Defense Minister Shaykh Salim Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah said in remarks to AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM reported by KUNA. He said the Soviet weapons have arrived in Kuwait and troops are training on them. As for security arrangements, Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah in an *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* interview denied reports that Kuwait has agreed to a unified security agreement signed by the GCC member-states, KUNA disclosed.

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Karmal Praises Gorbachev Statements to TIME
LD081354 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Kabul, Sept 7 BAKHTAR — "The answers of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU CC to the US *TIME* magazine once again revealed the consistent efforts of the USSR for the cause of peace."

This was stated by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary council of the DRA in an interview to a BAKHTAR correspondent.

Babrak Karmal said that the statements of Mikhail Gorbachev is an explicit appeal for the termination of arms race.

Babrak Karmal added that the USSR has always been and will continue to be a staunch defendant of peace. The replies of Mikhail Gorbachev once again indicate the responsible approach of the USSR leadership and the people of that country towards the elimination of the threat of nuclear war, he remarked.

The answers of the general secretary of the CPSU CC exposed the propaganda efforts of the West aimed at misrepresenting the essence of the policy of the USSR and proved with reason that these efforts are doomed to defeat.

Babrak Karmal stated that the USSR is a reliable bulwarks of peace and truthfully strives for abating the threat of nuclear war.

The USSR follows a policy which is aimed at maintaining peace in the interest of future society of humanbeing and the prohibiting of the expansion of arms race into the space.

President of the Revolutionary council of the DRA pointed out if the enormous amounts, which are now wasted on military purposes are spent on civil projects, shall have a positive effect on the world economy.

The elimination of discriminating trade barriers and the international division of labor will be playing a significant role in the creation of a better understanding, just and mutually beneficial relations in the interest of all peoples of the world.

Babrak Karmal remarked that Afghanistan firmly supports the USSR foreign peaceful policy and its proposals for the terminating of arms race and relaxation of world tension which are in the interest of the people of the world including the Soviet Unions' and the United States.

Babrak Karmal Praises Literacy Movement
LD082210 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Kabul, 17 Sonbola [08 Sep] (BAKHTAR) — Message of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council on occasion of the International Literacy Day.

Noble and honorable compatriots, on the occasion of 17th of Sonbola [8 September] the International Literacy Day, I express my best and warm congratulations to sisters brothers, teachers, and professors all over the country in cities, villages, offices, factories, in the Armed Forces, and among the tribes and nationalities who are busy with the noble, patriotic, and Islamic cause of literacy and brightening the mind of people with heroism and self-sacrifice, and to you brothers and sisters who are busy learning to read.

The United States pulling out of UNESCO or the organization for the science, culture and training of the United Nation is the best evidence that imperialism hates and is hostile to science. At the moment there are 10 percent illiteracy in the United States, this cradle of civilization of capitalism. The process of current events in revolutionary Afghanistan patently shows that the useless and vain activities of the counterrevolutionaries which have the complete support of imperialism, reaction and Chinese hegemonism from the political, financial, and military perspective, have been foiled and completely lost their social foundations. Only with the support of their foreign bosses can they carry on their sinister life.

The convocation of Loya Jerga of Afghanistan people, the beginning of elections for local organs and state power and the readiness for the convocation of High Jerga for tribes shows that now the people and the ulema have command of their destiny.

Right now despite the difficult situation, as a result of undeclared war of imperialism and reaction, our people have achieved great successes in the sphere of literacy, education and training, and other cultural spheres.

At present 20,000 literacy courses are being held. In them 400,000 persons are enrolled to learn to read. During the revolutionary years 1,150,000 persons became literate and the literacy movement has been transferred to a nation-wide movement.

In conclusion, while I praise the useful and effective measures which have been carried out in this sphere, I congratulate those who played a suitable role in this great cause and especially to the employees and teachers of the Department of Literacy and I wish them further success on the way of expanding the literacy movement.

Victorious be the General literacy movement in country.

Babrak Karmal, general secretary of PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council

Keshtmand Returns From USSR Medical Testing
LD061706 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, PDPA Central Committee Politburo member and chairman of the DRA COUNCIL of Ministers, who went to the Soviet Union some time ago for a medical check-up and treatment, returned home today.

He was welcomed at Kabul international airport by Saleh Muhammad Ziray, Politburo member and Secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; some members of the Central Committee Politburo; vice chairmen of the Council of Ministers; some

members of the Council of Ministers; and Fikryat Akhmedzhanovich Tabeyev, the Soviet ambassador in Kabul.

Foreign Minister's Luanda Meetings Reported

LD082245 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Shah Mohammad Dost, the DRA foreign affairs minister, during the nonaligned foreign ministers conference in Luanda had meetings with the foreign ministers of the Republic of Cuba, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the Syrian Arab Republic, the SRV, Laos, Kampuchea and minister of state in the Indian ministry of external relations.

During these meetings, which were held in a friendly atmosphere, talks were held on the international situation, issues relating to the conference of the nonaligned countries, and bilateral topics.

BAKHTAR Condemns Pakistan's Politics, Policies

LD060704 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0448 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] Kabul, September 5, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

The military regime of Islamabad has adopted perjury and demagogy as the basic line of its current policy. In an attempt to ensure the survival of its regime, General Zia conducted a mock referendum under the title of election. Now, the regime not only ignores its promises about the abolition of the military government but it also does not give any heed to Junejo government and his self-made parliament. While the military government has fixed the date of the abolition of the military government on January 1, 1986 and claims that it will move towards the restoration of democracy whereas it has imposed censorship on all postal mail. [Sentence as received] As also, printing houses and libraries in Sind Province have come under more severe surveillance.

The house arrest of Miss Benazir Bhutto, the leader of Pakistan People's Party was another breach of the promise made by the regime.

The opposition parties believe that it can be clearly inferred from the act of the military regime that General Zia does not give any respect to the parliament as well as premier of the military government because Junejo, Pakistani premier, had promised that Benazir Bhutto will not become subject to house arrest.

The reason why the military regime pursues a policy of enmity with the Pakistani people and trample down their freedom and democratic and civil rights as well as is carrying out a hostile policy against the DRA lies in the fact that Zia's military regime has changed into a military police of the U.S.A. and practically serves as an accomplice of the United States and Chinese hegemonists in the undeclared war against the DRA and thus, the Pakistani military regime increases its direct armed intervention against the DRA.

The action of Zia's regime is not comforming to its deed and it resorts to such sinister actions at a time when it claims that it moves to change the military regime into a civilian one.

While the Afghan people with great fervour and enthusiasm elect their representatives for the local councils of the state power and administration, the Pakistani people are making sham and faked propaganda against the enemies of Afghanistan.

All the nationalities and tribes of the DRA have for the first time acquired the right of voting and being elected to the local councils without any discrimination.

Taking advantage of their legitimate rights, the Afghan people through their deputies at the grand National Assembly held in late April in Kabul expressed their decisions how to seriously counter the counter-revolution and the foreign intervention made against the DRA.

The historical decisions made by the Grand National Assembly, the elections of the people's representatives for the local organs of the state power and administration are the major historical events, which have taken place in the course of the heroic struggles by the Afghan people, in Afghanistan.

Those who have brought about poverty, oppression and deprivation of the vital rights to the people of Pakistan naturally make every striving to create obstacles against the progressive developments in the DRA as well.

But the historical facts and figures will doom the enemies of Afghanistan to complete defeat.

DRA Denies Shelling Pakistani Territory

LD090703 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 9 Sep 85

[Text] Kabul, Sept 8, BAKHTAR — Charge d'affairs of the Embassy of Pakistan in Kabul was summoned to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the DRA and the following was conveyed to him by the director of the first political section:

The military Government of Pakistan in continuation of its baseless accusation has once again alleged that artillery shellings have been fired by the Armed Forces of the DRA against Laka Teja area near Kurm Agency on August 26,1985.

Likewise, the Pakistani Military regime has alleged that Tara Mangal and Biwa Kotal areas of Kurm Agency have also been subjected to heavy artillery firings by the Afghan side on August 24, 27 and 31, 1985.

After having carried out all-sided investigations on the matter, the Government of the DRA regards the allegations of the military Government of Pakistan void of truth and decisively rejects it. The Government of the DRA cautions the Pakistani authorities to put an end to the fabrication of such slanderous accusations against the DRA.

Government Officials Meet Tribal Leaders 6 Sep
LD070547 Kabul Domestic Service in Pahsto 1530 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] Solayman La'eq, minister of tribal and nationalities affairs, this afternoon met the members of the jergas of Aka Khel, Koki Khel, Stori Khel, Qamber Khel, Zakha Khel, and Shinwar tirbes of Khyber at Kabul Polytechnic Institute. During the meeting, La'eq spoke comprehensively on the heroism and sacrifice of militant and courageous Pashtuns in the course of the homeland's history and said: Friendship and fraternity among the Pahstuns and Afghans, which has successfully passed the test of time, has caused anxiety among our enemies. We announce confidently that, if anyone or any power harms and annoys the Pashtuns or looks at them with an evil eye, we will gouge out their eyes and shed their blood.

In return, Qazi Lal Mohammad Zakha Khel, on behalf of these tribes, spoke and said: We will prove this time, as we have in the past, that we will not remain indifferent to the undeclared war waged against the people and territory of revolutionary Afghanistan by imperialism.

According to another report, this afternoon during his meeting with the elders and leaders of the various tribes of Farah and Nimroz Provinces Major General Nazar Muhammad, defense minister of the DRA, spoke on the victories of the heroic armed forces of the country and said: We are fully confident that we will overcome problems with the fraternal assistance of all patriotic Afghans.

In return, Sarawar Khan, representative of the center of Farah Province and member of the consultative jerga, spoke on his people's behalf, supporting the realization of the humane objectives of the revolution.

According to another report, Sher Jan Mazduryar, minister of transport, this afternoon met the representatives of the various tribes of Helmand Province at the Polytechnic institute and spoke on the victories and gains of the revolution and the fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union to the DRA.

In return, Mollah Tor and Tor Akhundzada and a number of elders and leaders expressed their views and proposals in a completely free and democratic atmosphere.

Radio Reports Successes Against Rebel Bands
LD071557 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1430 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] According to a report to the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY by a responsible source, as a result of successful operations carried out recently around the City of Khowst, the satanic nests of rebels were completely eliminated and the toiling people of this city were saved from the evils of these oppressors.

As a result of successful operations carried out by our heroic armed forces in Jajay Meydan, Samkani and Jajay regions, a large number of counterrevolutionary bands were eliminated and the toiling inhabitants of Olgarah and Sekandarah resumed their peaceful lives. The Gardez, Samkani and Jajay Meydan road, which has been closed as a result of savagery by the counterrevolutionaries, was reopened.

The source added that, similarly, as a result of operations by the heroic armed forces of our country carried out in Ali Khayl and [name indistinct] Regions, several evil bands belonging to Sayaf were eliminated and these regions were cleared of their filthy existence.

Similarly, as a result of combat activities by the heroic Army of the DRA, a number of sworn enemies of the homeland and revolution were eliminated, including their leaders Hazrat Muhammad and Wazer Mangal in Kamki, Loy Mazdur, and Margha Regions; more than 300 of them were crushed; and a quantity of ammunition, clothes, medicine, and huge ammunition depots were seized from them.

Similarly, an education and training center and printed propaganda leaflets belonging to the infamous group of traitor Jalaluddin and their hide-outs were captured.

Also as a result of operations carried out up to now in Khowst City and its environs, a large number of rebels were crushed and 40 DShK's were either seized from them or destroyed.

As a result of deadly attacks by the heroic forces, life has ended for rebels along our borders, and the toiling people every where have given full assistance to soldiers and officers for the strengthening of the armed forces.

According to another report, combat activities are continuing in the southern parts of Khowst Major-district to crush the criminal rebel bands. The rebel bands, who for a long time were disrupting the peaceful lives of the noble and toiling people of southern regions of Khost, have been crushed as a result of crushing blows by the heroic armed forces of the DRA. And since a number of them did not have the ability to confront the units of the DRA armed forces, they have sought refuge in their camps and nests in Pakistani territory. The country's security forces have seized a number of weapons and ammunition, foodstuff, clothes, and medical stores.

Another report says that a large number of rebels have been seriously wounded as a result of blows inflicted on them by the country's security forces. As a result of the increase in the number of wounded, it is possible that the members of these bands mayreceive treatment in Pakistani hospitals.

Similarly, as a result of the heroic activities of the security forces of the country, the rebel bands did not have the ability to evacuate their dead and corpses from the area of combat activities. The situation has caused extraordinary negative effects on the rebels' morale, and they have abandoned direct confrontation with the country's security forces.

The leaders of the counterrevolutionary bands, with the cooperation of the military Government of Pakistan, are sending the remnants of counterrevolutionary bands into the territory of the

DRA in force and they are then being crushed because they have no power to resist the government forces.

Kabul Reports Rebels Down Bakhtar Airliner
LD071754 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1554 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] The non-Muslem rebels — the dishonorable servants of the United States and Pakistan — have committed another unforgiveable crime against innocent civilians, innocent women, and children.

They, as the executors of U.S. Government terrorism by perpetrating this beastly and terrible crime, once again showed that these criminals have no faith in any religion or faith and do not refrain from committing any criminal and shameful action against the innocent people of the country.

BIA reports that at 1108 hours [local time] on Wednesday 13 Sonbula [4 Sep] a Bakhtar Afghan Airline plane with 47 passengers and 5 crew which was on flight from Kabul to Farah, was hit by the rebels' U.S.-made land-to-air missiles during takeoff from Kandahar airport, which resulted in this plane being downed and all 52 passengers being martyred.

This horrible crime once again proves that the so-called pretenders of the free-world and primarily criminal U.S. imperialism, [word indistinct] responsible for this horrible and tragic event.

This event is manifesting the anger of international terrorism which is directed, financed, and organized by U.S. imperialism and terrorism has been upgraded as the government policy of this country.

The tragic event of firing on the Bakhtar Afghan Airline plane shows that advanced lethal weapons are being se..t mostly from Pakistan by U.S. imperialism for the perpetration of most horrible crimes against the peace-loving people of Afghanistan, [word indistinct] and destruction in our country, and are being put at the disposal of the counterrevolutionary bands.

Experience has shown that whenever crushing blows were inflicted on the counterrevolutionaries, they took vengeance for their defeat on innocent civilians.

The People of Afghanistan strongly denounce this inhumane crime. The perpetrators of this crime, the U.S. imperialists,the [words indistinct] dependent on U.S. imperialism, the regime of of General Ziaul Haq, and the criminal counterrevolutionaries of Afghanistan must know that this crime will not go without punishment.

SPA: Afghan Mujahidin Shoot Down Soviet Aircraft
GF071556 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1515 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Islamabad, 7 Sep (SPA) — The Afghan mujahidin were able to shoot down eight soviet planes and four helicopters during fighting in the town of Hajji between 21 and 31 August. They also destroyed more than 30 tanks and personnel carriers, and 60 Soviet military trucks. They killed 150 Soviet soldiers and more than 500 Afghan soldiers.

The Soviets carried out a bestial attack using napalm against the residents of Paktia Province over the past week. The attack resulted in losses or both sides.

Riyadh: Mujahidin Shoot Down 2 Soviet MiG's
GF071847 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Afghan mujahidin sources report that the mujahidin have shot down two Soviet MiG's and have forced the Soviet forces near the Pakistan border to withdraw during the fiercest battle fought since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan 6 years ago.

Eyewitnesses in Peshawar stated that about 15,000 Soviet soldiers are taking part in a two-pronged attack which began 2 weeks ago to drive back the mujahidin who have been besieging a garrison of Afghan Government troops in Khowst, in southeastern Afghanistan.

Soviet Forces Reported Withdrawing in East
GF070502 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Informed sources in Islamabad have said that Soviet forces have begun to withdraw from some areas in eastern Afghanistan following more than 1 week of intense fighting against Afghan Muslim mujahidin. The sources said that the mujahidin are still maintaining their positions.

The Soviet forces, estimated at 10,000-15,000 troops, supported by tanks and armored personnel carriers, are launching a major offensive against mujahidin supply routes and positions in Paktia Province.

Muscat Reports Afghan Mujahidin Operations
GF071449 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Reports reaching London indicate that over the past few days the Afghan mujahidin have launched rocket attacks against Soviet and Afghan Government positions located 10 kms southwest of Kabul. The mujahidin were able to hit the Afghan Defense Ministry building.

The London-based AGENCE AFGHAN PRESS [AAP] stated that the fighting between the Afghan mujahidin and the Soviet forces was renewed in the Panjsher Valley after the Soviet forces tried to recapture an area taken by the mujahidin in previous battles. AAP stated that other battles took place between the Afghan mujahidin and government forces in (?Herat) Province which resulted in the deaths of 8 regime soldiers and a number of intelligence officers; 17 others were wounded.

AAP, quoting the Voice of the Afghan Mujahidin Radio, said: The Soviets sent new forces to Paktia, in eastern Afghanistan, in an attempt to stop the Mujahidin from entering Afghan territory.

Riyadh: Mujahidin Prepare for New Counterattack
GF081305 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Afghan mujahidin sources in the Pakistani town of Peshawar near the Afghan border reported that the Mujahidin are currently sending reinforcements to wage a second counterattack against the Soviet and Karmal regime forces near the border region. The mujahidin reinforcements headed toward the town of Khost in Baktia Province, which the Soviet forces are currently attacking to end the siege imposed on it by the mujahidin for more than 1 year.

Red Cross officials set up a field hospital quickly to treat the wounded mujahidin coming from Afghanistan.

President Issues Ordinance To Amend People's Act

BK081407 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] The president today promulgated an ordinance amending Section 52 of the Representation of People's Act. The amendment provides that henceforth poll can be countermanded in a constituency only on the ground of death of a candidate set up by a recognized political party. In the event of death of an independent, the election will not be countermanded.

Earlier, Section 52 of the Representation of People's Act provides that if a candidate in any constituency dies after the last date of withdrawal, election in that constituency has to be countermanded. The amendment has no retrospective operation and, therefore it will not affect cases in which poll has already been countermanded before the promulgation of the ordinance.

As already reported elections are being held in the northern state of Punjab on the 25th of this month.

Explanatory Note Issued

BK081624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] An official press release issued in New Delhi says the amendment has no retrospective effect and it will not affect cases where polling has been countermanded before its communication.

Explaining the reason for the amendment, the official note points out that in recent times there had been instances of abuse of the provisions of the Section 52, disrupting the election process. There had been cases in which candidates virtually on death bed were nominated. In some other cases, validly nominated candidates were murdered for securing countermanding. The amendment became necessary in view of these developments and the prevailing condition.

It points out that the amendment is in accordance with parliamentary form of government, the functioning of which depends on a healthy system of parties. Earlier, all candidates were equally vulnerably to the danger of murderous attacks. The amendment will help save candidates other than those set up by recognized political parties from such dangers. Besides, it would also ensure adequate protection for candidates of recognized political parties.

President Seeks Stronger Relationship With U.S.

BK060954 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] The president, Giani Zail Singh, has said time is now ripe for establishing a stronger relationship between India and the United States. Welcoming the new ambassador, Mr John Dean, who presented his credentials to the president et the Rashtrapati Bhavan [president's house] in New Delhi today, Giani Zail Singh said despite differences in approach on some issues, we have much in common to build a meaningful relationship. He said with the continuing growth of the Indian economy there is good scope for cooperation in scientific and technological fields. Both the countries should take advantage of its result [as heard].

Mr Dean said the prime minister, Mr Gandhi's visit has brought into focus expansion of the Indo-American ties in recent years. He said the American companies have greater opportunity to participate in India's economic liberalization program. In trade and commerce we may be at the beginning of a new era, the new ambassador said.

Gandhi Renews Assistance Offer to Sri Lanka

BK071621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has again offered India's full assistance to solve the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. Addressing a public meeting in Palakod at the end of his 3-day tour of Kerala this evening, Mr Gandhi said both India and Sri Lanka should make an earnest effort to overcome the problem. He said the problem cannot be solved through terrorism and violence and urged Sri Lanka to show a sense of statesmanship in the matter.

Mr Gandhi called upon the people to wage a relentless fight against terrorism and extremism. He said although the Punjab and Assam problems have been solved, some forces are trying to impede the implementation of these agreements. Mr Gandhi also urged the people to make joint efforts in fighting the twin evils of communalism and poverty.

Home Minister Discusses Antinational Activities

BK071704 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] The home minister says antinational elements in Jammu and Kashmir are under strict surveillance and security at borders has been tightened. Addressing a press conference in Srinagar today, Mr S. B. Chavan said there has been some infiltration from Pakistan into Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, and some other sectors of the western border. Various measures have been taken to check it. He said the state government has also taken steps to curb antinational activities.

In reply to a question, the minister said talks with Mr Laldenga [Mizo National Front leader] are in final stages. An accord is likely to benefit both Mizoram and Tripura. Earlier, inaugurating the first regional conference on national integration and the role of administration in the city, he said reactionary elements are trying to disrupt unity.

Reviews Punjab Law, Order Situation

BK081259 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] The home minister, Mr S. B. Chavan, today reviewed the latest law and order situation in Punjab at a high-level meeting in Chandigarh. The All India Radio Chandigarh correspondent

reports that Mr Chavan also discussed the additional requirement of security forces by the state government to effectively maintain law and order during the elections. The meeting was attended by the Punjab governor, his adviser, the chief secretary, home secretary, the director general of police, and other senior officials.

Gunmen Kill Congress-I Worker in Jullundur

BK080848 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] In Punjab, the secretary of the Azampur block of the Youth Congress-I in Jullundur District, Mr Subhash Chandra, was killed when two unidentified scooterists fired at him this morning. The victim was on his way to his business premises when he was shot at. The police have launched a manhunt for the culprits who are reported to have escaped after the incident.

Reportage on Punjab Election Activities

Air Time Allocated; 550 Arrested

BK061639 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] At a meeting of the representatives of political parties in Jullundur, lots were drawn today for election broadcast and telecast in Punjab. The meeting, presided over by the chief electoral officer in the state, was attended by representatives of the Congress-I, Akali Dal, Janata Party, CPI, and CPI-M. No BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] representative was present. There will be one round of telecast from Jullundur TV and two rounds of broadcast from AIR [All India Radio], Jullundur, for 15 minutes for each political party. All parties were requested to abide by the code of conduct during the broadcast.

Eight hundred and fifty-two candidates are now left in the field after withdrawal [of candidates] for the 117 assembly seats. For the 13 Lok Sabha seats, there are 74 candidates. The election will be held on the 25th of this month.

Meanwhile, electioneering has picked up momentum on the first day of the second phase of the elections in the state.

The police have rounded up about 550 antisocial and antinational elements so far from different parts. An official spokesman said in Chandigarh that the arrests have been made as a preventive measure in view of the elections.

Akali Dal Chief Criticizes Arrests

BK080328 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] The Akali Dal pesident, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has said that his party is contesting the Punjab elections to accelrate the pace of development. In a statement in Ludhiana, he said that the Dal would take steps to end the difficulties of youth and ensure rehabilitation of Sikh armymen affected due to the events following last year's army action.

Mr Barnala criticized the preventive arrests being made in the state and urged the governemnt to stop it.

AFP: Border With Pakistan Sealed

NC071911 Paris AFP in English 1854 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 7 (AFP) — India has sealed its borders with Pakistan to prevent infiltration of "undesirable elements" into the troubled northern border state of Punjab, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said today.

It quoted Punjab Governor Arjun Singh, in an interview in Chandigarh, as saying that the action was part of the massive security drive under way to ensure peaceful elections to the state legislative assembly on September 25.

Mr. Singh said interrogation of several alleged terrorists — a term generally used by Indian authorities for Sikh militants — had prompted the sealing of the border.

The closure of the border would help prevent the infiltration of "undesirable elements" into Punjab, PTI added.

Mr. Singh also confirmed that about 85,000 para-military and police personnel had been deployed in Punjab as part of the extra security drive.

The September 25 polls, which will end more than two years of direct federal rule in Punjab, were called following an accord between moderate Sikhs and the government aimed at ending the violent campaign by a section of militants for greater autonomy in the predominantly-Sikh state.

PTI also reported Federal Interior Minister Shankarrao Chavan as saying that there had been infiltration from Pakistan through the border in "recent months." Mr. Chavan said the infiltrations had been into Punjab and Kashmir and that steps had been taken to stop them.

He added that the Indian Government had taken up with Pakistan through diplomatic channels the question of the alleged existence of camps in Pakistan for training militants.

Sikhs Hold Convention

HK090917 Hong Kong AFP in English 0857 GMT 9 Sep 85

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Sep 9 (AFP) — The Indian Government today was bracing to head off poll violence in Punjab, where militant Sikhs vowed at a convention yesterday to carry on their campaign for a separate state, analysts said.

The analysts cited in support of this view recent stepped up security measures prior to the September 25 polls in the northern state and federal president Zail Singh's signing here yesterday of an order amending poll laws.

A spokesman for the militant faction of the main Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, meanwhile, said in Amritsar that 10,000 members had attended a convention there yesterday and had vowed to boycott the state elections.

He also said the convention had rejected the July 24 Punjab peace accord signed by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the late moderate Sikh leader Harchand Singh Longowal. The accord was aimed at ending a violent campaign by a section of Sikh militants for greater autonomy in Punjab.

"The agreement is a stab in the back of the Panth (Sikh faith) and is a fraud on the Sikhs," the spokesman said.

The order amending poll laws signed by Mr Zail Singh struck down a provision under which elections had to be countermanded in the event of the death of a candidate.

The rule will now only apply to candidates of recognised political parties and not to independents.

More than half of the 922 candidates for Punjab's 117 state assembly and 13 federal parliament seats are independents. Analysts said independents were more vulnerable to Sikh assassin squads who sought to disrupt the poll by killing candidates.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has already armed himself with tough antiterrorist laws to deal with Sikh separatists, and analysts said yesterday's amendment to poll laws was another sign of Mr Gandhi's determination to go ahead with the Punjab elections.

More than 85,000 police and paramilitary troops are being deployed in the border state for the polls. The international border with Pakistan has already been sealed.

Analysts said yesterday's convention in Amritsar came as a grim reminder that militant Sikhs had neither given up their homeland plan nor were they likely to allow the polls to be peaceful.

Some militants among the delegates even raised secessionist slogans and cheered a militant Sikh leader who said "We need a house of our own now," an eyewitness said.

The meeting called upon every Sikh to rebaptise himself and to translate into action their slogan "Raj karega khalsa" (Only the pure will rule), eyewitnesses said.

The sikhs are baptised after birth, but they also have rebaptism when they dedicate themselves to the cause of the faith.

The call for rebaptism was first given by the late firebrand Sikh leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale at the peak of the Sikh homeland campaign in 1983.

Analysts here agree that the success of Mr Gandhi's peace plan in the Punjab will largely depend on the respective strengths of the militants and the moderates. Area experts have said that the militants have more silent supporters.

The convention in Amritsar followed a disclosure here by a group of Sikhs arrested after the murder of a prominent supporter of Mr Gandhi last week that they had planned to blow up a train and subvert life in New Delhi, which has a population of six million people.

Sikh Terrorists Reportedly Enter From U.S., Canada
HK070832 Hong Kong AFP in English 0818 GMT 7 Sep 85

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Excerpts] New Delhi, Sep 7 (AFP) — A group of 25 Sikhs trained in terrorism and subversion have entered India from the United States and Canada to carry out killings and highlight their campaign for an independent homeland, a federal intelligence report has said.

The report presented to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi late last month said that Sikhs based in the two countries were funding the separatist campaign and related murders in India, unimpeachable sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The sources, who have access to top political leaders, said the report had been accepted as "the basic paper" for formulating the administration's future strategy in dealing with the Sikhs.

The government refuses to confirm or deny the sources' statements. No comment was immediately available from the missions of the United States and Canada.

The report, which included input from Indian missions in the United States and Canada, also warned the government not to take for granted even the Sikh moderates, as more and more Sikhs living abroad were favouring the homeland demand.

Officials who asked not to be named said that Sikhs in the United States and Canada previously were known to be behind the campaign here, but that in the past their involvement was thought to have been more indirect.

The report warned that the group was employing young Indian Sikhs to carry out assassinations. The police here are yet to link two recent murders of associates of Mr. Gandhi to any alleged infiltrators.

The two ruling party politicians, New Delhi metropolitan council member Arjun Das and federal parliament member Lalit Maken, were assassinated in daring day-light attacks in the Indian capital in the past six weeks.

The Indian Government has said in the past that Sikhs were being trained in Pakistan and entering India to carry out subversion. Islamabad denies the charge.

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES newspaper today said that more than 500 Sikh militants had entered India from Pakistan in two batches between August 18 and 26. Half of them have cut their traditional long hair and beards, making it difficult for the police to differentiate them from other Indians, it said.

There was no official confirmation of the report.

In New Delhi, one of five Sikhs arrested after the assassination of Mr. Das last Wednesday told police today that a "large number of trained extremists" were now in the Indian capital, police said.

Balbir Singh said they were called "suicide squads" and are ready to strike at any time, officials present at Mr. Singh's interrogation said.

One of the five arrested killed himself soon after his arrest Thursday by consuming poison.

PTI London Report Cites Kashmir Front UK Plan
BK061608 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] A PTI report from London says that activists of the so-called Jammu and Kashmir Liberatin Front may have been planning a strike against an Indian target in Britain. The agency says that this follows a discovery that a senior member of the front wanted in connection with the murder of the Indian diplomat, Mr Ravindra Mhatre, came to a West European country from Pakistan a few days ago. The persons earlier fled Britain soon after Mr Mhatre was found murdered. The British Government had asked Pakistan for his extradition along with two others.

Ahmedabad Police Fire on Mob 7 Sept, 1 Killed
BK080321 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] In Gujarat, one person was killed when police opened fire to control a violent mob in Dariapur area of Ahmedabad City yesterday. Official sources said the trouble started when a police party went to the area to serve a warrant on a person wanted in connection with some crime. The police resorted to firing when tear gas proved ineffective to disperse the stone-throwing mob. The situation in the area is reported to be under control now.

Noorani Meets Iran's Velayati in Luanda

BK071625 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] The minister of state for foreign affairs, Zain Noorani, who is leading the Pakistani delegation at the nonaligned conference in Luanda, met with the foreign ministers of Nepal, Sri Lanka, and the Maldives and exchanged views with them on matters relating to bilateral relations and South Asia regional cooperation.

Zain Noorani also discussed bilateral relations and the regional situation with the Iranian foreign minister, Dr Akbar Velayati.

Cabinet Meeting Discusses Political Situation

BK071555 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] The federal cabinet held its meeting in Rawalpindi today under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo. The meeting discussed the country's current political situation and certain items on the agenda of the National Assembly session which begins tomorrow [8 September. The proceedings of the meeting began with a recitation from the holy Koran and its translation by the federal minister for law, justice, and parliamentary affairs, Iqbal Ahmad Khan.

Bill Introduced to Legalize Martial Law Actions

BK081555 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GM 8 Sep 85

[Text] Federal Minister for Law, Justice, and Parliamentary Affairs Iqbal Ahmad Khan introduced a bill on further amendments to the 1973 Constitution in the national assembly today. Apart from amendments to four clauses of the Constitution, the bill also provides for an amendment to constitutional Clause 270-A which would legalize from their original date of enactment the proceedings, orders, martial law orders, rules, and regulations promulgated since 5 July 1977.

Minister Says Bhutto Held Under Martial Law

BK091027 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 9 sep 85

[Text] The house [National Assembly] this morning disposed of seven adjournment motions and another two were deferred to its next sitting. Five identical adjournment motions sought to be moved by Mr Mumtaz Ahmed Taro, Mian Mohammad Zaman, Retired Lieutenent General Abdul Majid, Dr Sher Ahsan, and Kazi Saifullah were aimed at discussing the detention of Miss Benazir Bhutto.

Opposing the motion, the interior minister, Mr Mohammad Aslam Khattack, said it was a provincial matter and the martial law authorities in Sind had taken the action which does not come under the purview of the federal government. However, they had asked the provincial government about the reasons for detention and the reasons are: Violation of section 144 [banning assembly of five or more people] at Karachi airport on 27 August 1985, raising of political solgans at the airport the same day, taking out motorcade from airport to Cliffton [Miss Bhutto's residence], holding of a political gathering at Cliffton followed by political speeches,and intention to visit some sensitive areas in Karachi likely to result in law and order situation.

The interior minister pointed out that martial law was still in force in the country. The movers pressed their motions which were ruled out of the order by speaker. Four of the movers and two other members staged a walkout in protest against the ruling of the speaker.

People's Party Demands Immediate Release of Bhutto

BK080311 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] The Pakistan People's Party has demanded immediate release of its leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto, from house arrest. A resolution adopted by the party's Central Committee in Lahore asked the military authorities to allow Miss Bhutto free movement in the country.

Karachi: Afghan Mujahidin Attack Soviet Plane

BK080634 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] According to reports, the mujahidin made a missile attack on Qandahar airport in Hazarak area, damaging a Soviet plane. The reports say that the Soviet pilot and other crew members of the plane, which was carrying military supplies to Herat, were killed on the spot. On the same day, mujahidin attacked Qandahar cantonment with rocket launchers and damaged two tanks and some other military vehicles.

NEPAL

Extension of Panchayat Session Fuels Speculation

HK080258 Hong Kong AFP in English 0240 GMT 8 Sep 85

[By Kedar Man Singh]

[Text] Katmandu, Sept 8 (Afp) — The suprise extension of parliament's current session until King Birendra returns from abroad in two weeks' time, has fired speculation that political changes are in the offing, observers here said.

They said it was unclear what such changes would entail, although there was speculation they might involve a cabinet reshuffle or possibly political changes relating to the partyless Panchayat system.

The speculation that political changes were being planned was sparked by the unexpected three-week extension of the current session of the national Panchayat until King Birendra's return here on September 20 from a six-nation, 22-day tour.

The session opened on June 13 and was due to end on August 30, but has been extended until the king's return, a national Panchayat source said.

Further fueling the speculation has been the king's request to the chairman of the national Panchayat, Marich Man Singh, not to attend an Inter-Parliamentary Union meeting in Ottawa this week. As a result, Neapl was represented by his deputy, Gopal Chandr Rajbanshi.

Three schools of thought have emerged to explain these developments.

The first believes the king is planning to introduce an amendment to the Constitution, expected to encourage opponents of the present partyless Panchayat system, including the banned Nepali Congress, to participate in the next general elections for the national Panchayat in May.

The amendment would remove a clause in the Constitution under which every Nepalese contesting in the general election for the national Panchayat has to become a member in one of the country's six class organizations and pledge not to work against the Panchayat system. The class organizations — youth, women, peasants, adults, labourers and ex-servicemen — were created in 1961 following the dissolution of Nepal's first parliamentary system of government.

Observers here said that if such an amendment were enacted, all leaders of banned opposition parties would likely participate in the May polls, the second general election under the partyless system. The first was in 1981.

In a May 1980 national referendum, 55 percent of voters favored the partyless system, against 45 percent who preferred a party system of government.

Political opposition leaders believe that proponents of the Panchayat system would be wise to introduce an amendement enabling all political leaders to contest the upcoming election, since the Panchayat system won only a small majority in the referendum. Its advocates pledged to reform the system gradually to accommodate all factions.

The second school of thought believes the king might carry out a major cabinet reshuffle in which all controversial or allegedly corrupt cabinet members would be dropped.

The king would ask Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand to accomodate various factions among national Panchayat members to form a broad strategy for contesting the general election.

Some people in this school do not believe that Mr Chand would be asked to quit and the house to elect a new premier.

But others view the extension of the current national Panchayat session as a possible sign that Mr Chand, who has held office for two and a half years, could be replaced.

Mr Chand recently thwarted an attempt by the opposition in the house to table a no-confidence vote following a series of bomb attacks in June which killed eight people and injured at least 27.

The third school of thought, meanwhile, believes the king extended the national Panchayat session to brief it on his state visit to Australia and his first encounter with Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi during his tour.

Proponents of this view hold that the king might bring some changes in the cabinet to present a united image of his government, but he was unlikely to introduce any major changes in the Constitution which might alienate die-hard followers of the Panchayat system.

Overall, however, political observers here said the extension of the national Panchayat session did not appear to be a good sign for the Chand government, which has been accused of failing to stamp out corruption and inflation and to maintain law and order.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene Talks on Peace Proposal; TULF Meets

BK081409 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] The Sri Lanka president, Mr Jayewardene, has said that peace proposals to end the country's ethnic issue will be presented in parliament and implemented through legislation. He was addressing a Buddhist conference in Colombo. Though he did not indicate what the solution would be, he ruled out a general election or a referendum to endorse the peace pact.

In Madras, the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] Politburo held a discussion on the working paper prepared recently in New Delhi to help solve the Sri Lankan ethnic issue. According to the general secretary of the TULF, Mr Amirthalingam, the discus-

sion will continue tomorrow. The Tamil Nadu electricity minister, Mr S. Ramachandran, also held brief discussion with the TULF leader.

Eelam Supporters To Boycott Conference in India
BK080348 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] The AICC-I [All India Congress Committee-Indira] general secretary, Mr G.K. Moopanar, has had separate discussions with the Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran, and leaders of the Sri Lankan Tamil militant groups in Madras in a bid to improve the prospects of reaching a negotiated settlement on the island's ethnic problem. PTI says the talks centered round the draft working paper initialled by Mr Hector Jayewardene, who led the Sri Lankan delegation to the Thimpu talks.

Meanwhile, the constitutents of the Tamil Eelam supporters organization say they will boycott the all party conference convened by the Tamil Nadu chief minister on Friday to discuss the problem. Addressing a news conference in Madras, the convenor of the organization, Mr M. Karunanidhi, said this is in protest against the state government's approval for deporting some Tamil militant leaders.

Curfew in Trincomalee District Relaxed
BK061324 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] The curfew in the administrative district of Trincomalee has been relaxed. The new curfew hours are from 1800 [1230 GMT] today to 0600 [0030] tomorrow. There will be no curfew tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Defense has said in a statement issued today that no attack has taken place on security forces stationed in Kuchchaveli and Uppuveli as reported by a (?certain section of media.)

5 'Terrorists' Killed by Security Forces 5 Sep
BK061348 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] Five terrorists were killed when they attacked a colony at Chinnakkunchukkulam yesterday, security sources told LANKAPUWATH today. Three armed youths in blue shirts threw grenades at an army patrol from Tondaimanar in Jaffna yesterday. Soldiers did not suffer any casualty.

Security sources also told LANKAPUWATH that a Sinhalese woman was kidnapped by four armed terrorists at (Kothuraliya) in Vavuniya. She was raped and later released.

Yesterday armed terrorists stopped an SLTB [Sri Lanka Transport Board] bus on the Mannar road and kidnapped the Sinhalese conductor.

Tamils Report 40 Killed by Government Forces
HK070936 Hong Kong AFP in English 0931 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Sep 7 (AFP) — Sri Lankan Navy gunboats and other security forces fired on Tamils near Trincomalee killing 40, a south India-based Tamil guerrilla group reportedly said today.

Sinhala civilians had helped the security forces, who also set fire to 100 Tamil homes there yesterday, a spokesman for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said according to press TRUST OF INDIA (PTI).

The security forces looted Tamil property as navy gunboats opened fire, he said.

There was no independent confirmation of the report and the Sri Lankan High Commission here was not available for comment.

The LTTE spokesman said the killings occurred at Murukapuri, three kilometers (1.8 miles) from Trincomalee on the east coast.

Government Denies Tamil Claim
HK080920 Hong Kong AFP in English 0916 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Colombo, Sept 8 (AFP) — The Sri Lankan Defence Ministry today denied a militant Tamil separatist group's allegation that security forces killed 40 Tamils and torched 100 Tamil homes in Northeastern Trincomalee on Friday.

The secretary to the Defence Ministry, General Sepala Attygalle, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the allegations by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) were completely false. "No such thing happened," he said.

A spokesman for the southern-Indian based LTTE was quoted by the PRESS TRUST of INDIA (PTI) news agency as saying yesterday that Sri Lanka Navy gunboats and other security forces had fired on Tamils near Trincomalee on Friday, killing 40 people.

The LTTE spokesman also reportedly said that Sinhala civilians had helped the security forces to set fire to 100 Tamil homes there.

Meanwhile, in the Batticaloa District further south, security forces yesterday located a reported LTTE training camp in the jungle, 40 kilometers (25 miles) west of Batticaloa. Security forces had launched a major operation at dawn on Friday against the camp.

High-ranking security sources said the security forces discovered that the militants had fled the camp, presumably after sighting the approaching troops.

Several pots of cooked food at the camp indicated that the militants had left in a hurry, the sources said.

They added that the security forces had found several vehicles including a tractor which had been robbed by the militants as

well as separatist literature, radio manuals and other items at the camp.

Militants Attack Sinhalese Fishermen
BK081557 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] In Sri Lanka, there has been a new outbreak of violence involving fishermen. A Sri Lankan spokesman claimed that Tamil militants attacked three Sinhalese fishing boats at sea, killing one man. He said that when the word of attack reached the coast, a group of Sinhalese set on fire Tamil shops and houses near Trincomalee. Police rushed to the site and naval fire brigade helped in bringing the fire under control. The violence erupted a day after the government decided to lift the night curfew.

Tamil Groups Claim 85 Killed Over Weekend
HK090551 Hong Kong AFP in English 0539 GMT 9 Sep 85

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 9 (AFP) -- At least 85 Tamils were killed in a wave of weekend violence in Sri Lanka, south India based Tamil guerrilla groups said today.

The victims included 35 bus passengers burnt to death after "Sinhala hoodlums" set fire to a Jaffna bound bus Saturday, a spokesman for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said in a press statement.

The killing took place at Eechamapathai village, four kilometres (2.4 miles) south of Jaffna, the statement released by UNITED NEWS OF INDIA (UNI) said.

More than 50 Tamils were killed in attacks in three villages in Sri Lanka Sunday, another Tamil group, the Eelam People's Revolutionary Front, said.

In a statement issued in Madras, where most of the guerrilla groups are based, the front named the villages as Eeraperiyakulam, Munavi and Aznagama.

It was not known what provoked the reported killings, and there was no independent confirmation of the reports.

A Sri Lankan High Commission spokesman here said the reports "appear untrue on the face of it... we are checking with our government, but it appears that the reports are fabricated."

A section of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamils are leading an often bloody campaign for a separate Tamil homeland in the north and east. Officials estimate that more than 2,000 people have died in vilence in the country in the past two years.

Officials Deny Tamil Charge
HK090726 Hong Kong AFP in English 0716 GMT 9 Sep 85

[Text] Colombo, Sept 9 (AFP) — Officials today denied reports from separatist Tamils groups in South India that some 85 Tamils were killed in violence in Sri Lanka during the weekend.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) had said 35 passengers were burnt to death after "Sinhala hoodlums" set fire to a Jaffna bound bus Saturday.

The Eelam People's Revolutionary Front had said that more than 50 Tamils were killed in attacks in three villages Sunday.

Sri Lankan Defense Ministry, Army and police sources denied both reports to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE today. They said there appeared to be "no truth" to the report of the bus burning, and they had no information on any incident Sunday in which Tamils were killed in Sinhala villages.

Tamil sources here told AFP that a mini-bus was stopped last Wednesday by armed men at Punavai Village, north of Anuradhapura. The bus was set on fire and some 18 passengers sought treatment for injuries at hospitals, they said.

Another 25 passengers were reported missing but there was no evidence that they had been burnt alive, the sources said.

The official sources pointed out that a private company operating a bus service between Colombo and Jaffna told AFP that one of its vehicles had left for Jaffna today, and that it was unlikely that a Tamil bus operator would risk running a service if passengers were being burnt alive.

Sixteen Sinhalese, including a policeman, travelling in a lorry close to Kantalai near northeastern Trincomalee were kidnapped by suspected Tamil militants on Saturday and are still missing, offical sources said today.]Some reports have said seven of them were shot dead. Another gyoup of six Sinhalese kidnapped by a 25-strong group of suspected Tamil militants Thursday in the northern Vavuniya District also are still missing, official soruces said.

Some 15 Tamil houses and shops were torched and five boats damaged yesterday in Trincomalee when Sinhalese retaliated for the killing of a Sinhala fisherman and wounding of two others by Tamil militants earlier in the day, they said.

Colombo Cites PTI on LTTE Chief's Whereabouts
BK091105 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 9 Sep 85

[Text] The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA reported yesterday that leader of the Liberation Tigers of the Tamil Eelam [LTTE] (N.C.P.E. Mallukalla) Prabakaran, has gone underground. The report added that police efforts to trace Prabakaran, who is believed to be in the south Indian state of Tamil Nadu where the LTTE had its headquarters, have proved futile. Prabakaran vanished soon after adeportation order was served on LTTE spokesman S. Balasingam, who is now in London.

PTI said that the Tamil Nadu chief minister, M.G. Ramachandran, wants to meet Prabakaran to discuss solution to the ethnic conflict in Sri Lanka. His disappearance was delaying a meeting between Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and the Eelam National Liberation Front [ENLF] of which the LTTE is one of the four constituent group.

Italian Ship Released Following Cargo Inspection
LD061807 Tehran IRNA in English 1800 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 6, IRNA — An Italian cargo ship of the Merzario Corporation was released by Iranian officials after her cargo was fully inspected at the Persian Gulf on Friday. The ship was suspected of carrying military weapons for Iraq. Upon inspection the 25,000-ton vessel of the Merzario Corporation was found to be carrying cargo to other Persian Gulf states.

The head of the War Information Headquarters of Iran, Dr. Kamal Kharrazi, said in an interview in Tehran this week that the Islamic Republic would seize the cargo of any vessel heading for Iraq if such cargo is judged to be capable of enhancing the military capability of the Iraqi Government.

Navy Commander Comments on Gulf Shipping
LD081626 Tehran IRNA in English 1550 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept 8 IRNA — In its Sunday issue the Persian daily *JOMHURI-E ISLAMI* has quoted the commander of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Captain Hoseyn Malekzadegan as saying that a final decision regarding a seized Kuwaiti ship *Al-Watiyah* will be made within the next 48 hours.

The Islamic Republic has warned shipping companies that it would seize all cargo destined to help the Iraqi war effort. The Iranian Navy seized two ships in the Persian Gulf last week.

The captain warned that Iran will not allow ships carrying cargo destined for Iraq to use the territorial waters of the neighbouring Persian Gulf countries. He warned the Persian Gulf states against permitting arriving ships to use their territorial waters. "The grave outcome of the situation will rest with these regimes" he said.

Malekzadegan said the Navy of the Islamic Republic would drive Iraq bound ships away from the territorial waters of the Persian Gulf countries and will inspect their cargo. He said "we shall continue to control the Persian Gulf by means of our sea and air units and will prevent the transport of cargo to Iraq" he said.

Malekzadegan also reiterated that the Islamic Republic will halt the flow of oil from the Persian Gulf if its own oil exports are to be stopped as a result of Iraqi raids.

Khamene'i: Iraq Supporters To 'Receive Their Share'
GF061300 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1122 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Arabic Friday sermon delivered by Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Tehran Friday imam, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council, at Tehran University on 6 September — recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I extend my warm greetings to all Muslim brothers throughout the world. I hope — now that the pilgrimage rites and the great Islamic congress are over and the pilgrims have begun to return to their countries — that the pilgrims are carrying home with them rich and great moral experiences.

Coinciding with the pilgrimage season, the Iranian people have completed the decisive and fateful presidential elections magnificently and in an atmosphere of calm and security. This clearly reflects the political stability and the control exercised by the apparatus running the country.

The forces of international arrogance — through their world propaganda network and by using the enemies of the revolution who have fled to various corners of the globe — have striven very hard to divest the elections of their magnificence and greatness and reduce the masses' enthusiasm and welcome for the elections. However, despite the indefatigable efforts and great expenses incurred by the forces of international arrogance, neither the tendentious radio analyses nor the hollow and sterile threats by groups [not further identified] have succeeded in undermining our people's firm determination to participate in deciding the country's political destiny. The citizens' decisive views in electing the president was the appropriate and irrefutable reply to all feeble hopes and desperate attempts.

The regime of the Islamic Republic is becoming stronger day by day and its fruits and accomplishments are becoming more clear, the forces of evil and the enemies of righteousness notwithstanding. This, in fact, is a fulfillment of the divine promise, for Almighty God says: "Have you not seen how God has struck a similitude? A good word is as a good tree — its roots are firm, and its branches are in the sky; it gives its produce every season by leave of the Lord. So God strikes examples for men, haply they will reflect." [Koranic verse]

This has been the situation so far. The Iraqi regime has been merely a docile and trivial instrument, constantly seeking to achieve the ambitions of world arrogance and to strike at the Islamic revolution and its Islamic system. We have so far given a firm response in all domains and we have responded to the enemy in kind. We shall continue to do so in the future. We are confident that neither that naive and shortsighted regime, nor those who assist it, nor those who encourage it to persist in its aggression, will know that the Islamic Republic will let any blow pass unanswered.

Now, the Iraqi regime, by striking bargains and making agreements with regimes hostile to the Islamic regime, has launched several attacks on Iranian oil installations in the hope that it can affect our oil industry. Despite the enormous expense and losses sustained by the Iraqi regime as a result of such attacks, the attacks have had no effect. Considering that MiG-25 aircraft were used and bombs were dropped from a high altitude, such attacks lack any military value. If such attacks were to present a real threat to our oil exports, then undoubtedly they would not remain unanswered by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

We have exercised self-restraint and patience and have ignored the provocations of the Iraqi regime, so as not to drag the region into a real crisis. However, let no one doubt that our self-restraint will not continue forever. All the air attacks by the Iraqi regime on Khark will be met with the appropriate response. If the export

of oil from the oil terminals of our country's ports should be affected, let the others be sure that no oil will be exported from the Persian Gulf. We firmly declare that any strike will be met with a more powerful strike. Those who are flagrantly supporting Iraq in committing such foolish actions will also receive their share from such response.

In conclusion I once again extended my unlimited greetings to you, O brother Muslims throughout the world, and I ask Almighty God to grant success to everyone. I ask God to grant me and you forgiveness. Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. "When the help of God and victory come, and you see men entering God's religion in throngs, then proclaim the praise of your Lord, and seek His forgiveness for He turns again unto men." [Koranic verse]

Khark Raided in Retaliation

GF091221 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1210 GMT 9 Sep 85

[Text] Baghdad, 9 Sep (WAKH) — At noon today Iraqi fighters dropped eight tons of incendiary material over Iran's Khark Island. This took place during a ferocious raid. This was reported by an Iraqi military spokesman a while ago who said that the raid took place at 1330 [1030 GMT] today and that the fighters returned to their bases safely after executing the raid with extreme accuracy and proficiency. The spokesman stressed that this raid comes in retaliation to the statements voiced by the Iranian president on Friday.

President Urges Unity Among All Muslims

LD082042 Tehran IRNA in English 1525 GMT 8 Sep 85

["Shi'a-Sunni Disputes Must Be Avoided — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i Saturday stressed the necessity of preserving unity among the Muslim nations and avoiding such issues which cause disputes between Shi'ite and Sunni Muslims. Hojjat ol-Eslam Khamene'i further said that the world oppression and Zionism have allied together against Islam and Muslims should not fall prey to contentious issues for dispute.

Speaking to a group of theologians and leaders of Friday prayers from Sistan-Baluchestan Province, the president said they were duty-bound to mobilise people's support in confronting the Iraqi imposed war.

Khamene'i Receives More Congratulatory Messages

LD071812 Tehran IRNA in English 1730 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7. IRNA — Messages congratulating President Khamene'i on his re-election as president continues to pour in from foreign heads of state as well as international bodies.

Among congratulatory messages received Saturday were from presidents of People's Republic of China, Tanzania, Turkey, Zimbabwe, the leader of People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the prime ministers of: Thailand, Malaysia, the leader of Tawhid Islamic Movement in Lebanon, Jammu and Kashmir's liaison committee of Shi'a Muslims, the fraternal societies of Irano-South Korea and of Iran and the People's Democratic Republic of Korea.

Prime Minister Praises 'Black Friday' Martyrs

LD081759 Tehran IRNA in English 1749 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8, IRNA — Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi chaired Sunday's Cabinet meet in which he praised the martyrs of the 8th September (Black Friday massacre).

The prime minister speaking at the meet said that the 17th of Sharivar (8th Sept) and those martyred on that day by troops of the despotic ex-shah's regime marked a turning point in the history of the Islamic revolution. He said that the "Black Friday" martyrs are forever alive in the people's hearts.

Musavi, who recently visited one the research centers of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), said that the work of these devoted brothers prove that immediate solutions to complicated matters are possible by revolutionary methods and without the unneeded bureaucracy.

September 8, 1978 (which corresponds with 17th Sharivar in the Iranian calendar) was a day on which many independence seeking Muslim Iranians were martyred in Shohada Square southeast Tehran.

Reportage on Visit of Bulgarian Minister

Arrives 6 Sep

LD062123 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] Pando Vanchev, minister of communications of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, arrived in Tehran today at the head of a senior delegation for a four-day official visit at the invitation of minister of post, telegraph and telephone, Morteza Nabavi. He was welcomed by Nabavi and a number of officials from the Post, Telegraph and Telephone Ministry.

Confers With Nabavi

LD071933 Tehran IRNA in English 1835 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7, IRNA — Communications minister of Bulgaria, Pando Vanchev, who arrived here late Friday at the invitation of Iran's minister of post, telephone and telegraph, Morteza Nabavi, met and conferred with him Saturday.

Iranian P.T.T. minister said in the meeting that, before the Islamic revolution communications projects were carried out by foreign experts at exorbitant costs, noting too, that the same projects are now being performed by Iranian experts on a wider scale.

Speaking on P.T.T. accomplishments, Nabavi said "before the Islamic revolution 300 villages had telephone lines, but that after that 1,400 villages were supplied with telephone lines, while more than 200 towns received automatic telephone centers. He said also that post office centers increased to 2,000 in the post-revolution years, which were also carried out in addition to other P.T.T. projects."

The Bulgarian minister, heading a high-level delegation, called Irano-Bulgaria's relations in communications fields "very successful" and expressed hope that the two countries' relations in economic and commercial issues would be strengthened.

The Iranian minister suggested that negotiations be held over an Iran-Bulgaria telephone line relayed by Turkey, as well as an automatic mail sorting for Iran and collaboration between the two countries in international postal unions.

Received by Commerce Minister

LD081246 Tehran IRNA in English 0746 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8, IRNA — Bulgaria's Communications Minister Pando Vanchev who is in Tehran at the head of a high-level delegation, met and discussed bilateral relations with Iranian commerce minister, Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari, here Saturday.

Ja'fari, mentioning figures about the volume of commercial exchanges between Iran and Bulgaria in the past five years, said that a considerable increase in trade exchanges indicates expansion of cooperation between the two countries.

The visiting Bulgarian minister referred to Bulgaria's regular participation in Tehran's international trade fair and dispatching of high-level delegations headed by cabinet ministers of Bulgaria to Iran as indicative of cooperation with the Islamic Republic.

An increase in the purchase of oil and non-oil products from Iran are among the signs of expansion in mutual relations, Vanchev said adding that many fields for the expansion and strengthening of bilateral relations remain to be fulfilled.

The Iranian commerce minister accepted an invitation to attend Bulgaria's international fair next month, put forward in the meeting.

Increased Trade Anticipated

LD090557 Tehran IRNA in English 1742 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8, IRNA — The amount of trade exchanges between Iran and Bulgaria reached dlrs 300 million in 1984 and the figure is expected to increase to dlrs 400-450 million by the end of the current year, according to the commercial attache of the Bulgarian Embassy here Sunday.

The attache added that before the victory of the Islamic revolution Bulgaria's exports consisted primarily of meat, valued at dlrs six million. He added that Bulgaria is ready to expand its cooperation with the Islamic Republic in all economic fields and that a Bulgarian delegation is currently discussing the subject of installing an automatic telephone system with Iranian officials.

The official also said that Iran takes 10 pc [percent] of the total exports of Bulgaria and that Bulgaria is to purchase some 1.5 million tons of oil from Iran by the end of the current Iranian year (March 20,1986). He further said that according to a recent agreement of the joint economic commission, about 15 percent of Bulgaria's imports from Iran will be non-oil products.

Received by Agriculture Minister

LD090930 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 9 Sep 85

[Text] The Bulgarian minister of communications met and conferred with Mr Zali, the minister of agriculture of our country at the ministry yesterday. The Islamic Republic News Agency reports that at this meeting the Bulgarian ambassador to Tehran and members of the delegation accompanying the Bulgarian minister were present.

The Bulgarian minister of communications said at this meeting that he was pleased to meet the Iranian minister and handed a message from the foreign trade minister of Bulgaria and from the chairman of the Bulgarian delegation at the joint session of economic cooperation between Iran and Bulgaria to the minister of agriculture.

At this meeting, he said that the volume of economic and trade exchange between the two countries is $500 million and it is hoped that it will reach the expected ceiling by the end of the current year. He added: Technological cooperation between Iran and Bulgaria is not limited to oil and Bulgaria is about to import copper concentrate to a value of $6 million, copper worth $4 million dollars and textiles, cotton, and tricot to a value of $1.5 million. The Bulgarian minister of communications said that he hopes the third joint session for economic cooperations between the two countries will be held in Bulgaria next Bahman [21 Jan to 21 Feb].

Mr Zali, the minister of agriculture, said in response: I am sure that your trip will be the beginning of more visits by other Bulgarian officials and ministers to Iran so that economic, technological, and agricultural cooperation between the two countries can expand. He then explained the agricultural situation in Iran and said: In our country, despite various difficulties brought about by the imposed war, agricultural and industrial work is done admirably well -- so much so that after the victory of the Islamic revolution, in spite of the problems and chaos left by the former regime, about 20,000 villages have been linked to the electricity network and have better roads now. Because of the Islamic revolution and after the formation of the Ministry of Reconstruction most villages have been renovated and developed. He added: In the joint commission for economic cooperation between Iran and Bulgaria and in the letter of agreement which was signed by the two countries last year, in addition to various agricultural agreements there exists the possibility of further cooperation in the dairy, cattle, and fisheries industries between the two countries.

At this meeting, both sides stressed the need for continuing and expanding mutual cooperation.

Pakistani Delegation Signs Letter of Understanding

LD060537 Tehran IRNA in English 0658 GMT 5 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept 5, IRNA — Volume of bilateral trade between Iran and Pakistan will rise to 400 million dollars according to a letter of understanding signed by the two countries for economic and commercial cooperation. The letter, signed here during the visit of Pakistan Commerce Minister Salim Saifullah, includes trade of goods such as oil, minerals, textiles, rice and fertilisers. Implementation of the agreement will be reviewed quarterly and grounds will be explored for the expansion of commercial exchanges.

The Pakistani minister arrived here last week heading a commercial-economic delegation and left Iran on Wednesday. Before his departure, he invited Iranian officials to visit Pakistan.

Further Reportage on Tehran International Fair

FRG National Day Celebrated

LD060922 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] According to a report from our correspondent, yesterday afternoon FRG National Day was marked at Tehran's 11th international fair. The deputy commerce minister for export affairs, several industrialists and merchants, the German ambassador and a group of German economic officials were present at the ceremonies.

During the ceremonies, the FRG ambassador made a speech. Expressing delight in the participation of 72 German firms at the fair, he said: All those who have come from the FRG for this purpose have found an opportunity to witness the economic and industrial development of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which has been achieved despite the pressure of the war on your economy.

Afterwards, our country's deputy commerce minister addressed the FRG ambassador, saying: Despite the upward trend of our imports from the FRG, unfortunately your country's purchases from Iran, in both nonoil goods and oil products, has not grown but is falling.

In conclusion, the deputy commerce minister expressed gratitude for the presence of the ambassador and FRG economic officials at the fair.

Spanish National Day Marked

LD061011 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] According to an IRNA report, Spanish national day was marked at Tehran's 11th international trade fair yesterday evening in the presence of the Spanish ambassador and that country's political and economic officials in Iran, the financial director-general for capitalist countries at the Commerce Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran, several officials of the ministry, and a group of foreign and Iranian guests.

During these ceremonies, the Spanish ambassador in Tehran made some remarks on commercial relations between Iran and Spain. Afterwards, the financial director-general for capitalist countries at our country's Commerce Ministry commented on the economic relations between Iran and Spain and said: The trip of Mr Velasco, the Spanish secretary of state for foreign trade, and his entourage to Tehran, which led to the signing of a memorandum of understanding between Iran and Spain, will implement wider expansion of economic and commercial cooperation between the two countries. Referring to Spain's role in Iranian development projects, he added: Spain is participating in many industrial projects in Iran, including the Imam Khomeyni Port project, the supply of parts and equipments used in power stations, and the transfer of technology in the field of pharmaceutical industries.

At the conclusion of the ceremonies, in an interview with an IRNA correspondent, the Spanish ambassador to Iran said: At present Iran and Spain enjoy very healthy economic and commercial relations and, because the two countries' goods complement each other, these relations will expand in the future. He continued: Currently, two barter transactions are being concluded between Iran and Spain worth $250 million and $110 million. This is Spain's total barter purchase for 1985.

Concluding his remarks, the Spanish ambassador commented on Spain's membership in the EEC and its effect on the volume of that country's imports from Iran, and pointed out: At present we think that Spain's entry into the Common Market would not affect our imports from Iran; however, under these circumstances, Spain has to observe EEC laws.

GDR Deputy Minister Arrives

LD081311 Tehran IRNA in English 0850 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept 8, IRNA — Deputy Minister of mechanical engineering, farm machinery and vehicle construction of German Democratic Republic (GDR), Mr Scholwin arrived here late Saturday heading a delegation to visit the 11th international Tehran trade fair and to participate in his country's national day, Sept 11th.

In a speech, the GDR official hoped that the two countries have good relations and further wished for the expansion of economic and commercial ties.

The GDR delegation is to hold talks with Iranian officials of industries, heavy industries, and transport ministries on mutual relations. They are also to discuss the implementation process of a protocol signed in May 1985 between the two countris according to which volume of mutual trade would amount to 400 million dollars.

Further Details

LD082133 Tehran IRNA in English 1743 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8, IRNA — The commercial relations between Iran and German Democratic Republic (GDR) were reviewed in a meeting here Sunday [8 Sep] between the visiting GDR deputy minister of mechanical engineering and farm construction, Mr Scholwin and Iran's deputy commerce minister for foreign trade Mojtaba Khosrow-Taj. The two also analyzed future trade prospects of the two countries.

GDR is prepared to provide Iran with its needed machinery and raw material and in return import oil and non-oil commodities from Iran, Scholwin announced.

According to a letter of understanding signed by GDR and Iran in Tehran in mid May, the volume of trade between the two countries was expected to reach 800 million dlrs per year.

Scholwin also declared that an economic and trade delegation from GDR is to visit Tehran in October to explore ways of upgrading the volume of trade between the two countries.

In related news, Mr Scholwin met and conferred with deputy minister of industries for economic and trade affairs, Mr Jamshidi here Sunday. Matters relevant to expansion of economic ties between the two countries were discussed at this meeting.

Indian Minister Holds Meetings

LD082141 Tehran IRNA in English 1725 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8, IRNA — The visiting Indian industries minister, Virendra Patil and his accompanying delegation met with Iran's commerce minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari, here Sunday morning [8 September]. The Indian minister mentioned that the main objective of his visit is to take part in the international trade fair of Tehran. He also extended an invitation to Iranian Industries Ministry officials to participate in India's annual international trade fairs.

Mr. Patil stated that bilateral cultural and commercial relations between Iran and India were "good" and that he was hopeful about the expansion of the relations between the two countries. The Iranian commerce minister said in response that "Iran is always trying to expand its commercial ties with the Third World, and with developing countries and members of Non-aligned Movement including India."

Central Bank Governor Meets With Romanian Officials

LD071808 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7, IRNA — Governor of the Central Bank of the Islamic Republic of Iran (CBI), Mohsen Nurbakhsh arrived in Bucharest Friday and was received by officials from Romania's national and foreign trade banks.

The first round of talks between Nurbakhsh and the chief of Romania's National Bank which also functions as central bank started Friday night. At the meeting the Romanian official presented Nurbakhsh a report on banking system in Romania.

Foreign Ministry Delegation Departs for USSR

LD081617 Tehran IRNA in English 1542 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8 IRNA — A Foreign Ministry delegation headed by Mohammed Hoseyn Adeli, the economic director of the Ministry left here Sunday for the U.S.S.R. Mr. Adeli is to submit a message from Foreign Minister Velayati of the Islamic Republic to his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze.

During his one-week official visit Adeli is also to hold negotiations with the Soviet officials on reactivating a joint economic commission and also on other economic matters.

ETTELA'AT Interviews Hizballah Delegation

GF080500 Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian 20 Aug 85 pp 3, 19

[Interview with Abu Hisham and Subhi al-Tufayli, members of a Lebanese Hizballah delegation which recently visited Tehran, by unidentified *ETTELA'AT* correspondent]

[Excerpts] Question: Presently, the balance of power in Lebanon has been upset and the Maronites, who once had all the power in that country, today have suffered severe blows. On the other hand, the majority of the Lebanese population is Shi'ite. What are your programs for the political future of Lebanon? Do you want to see the confessional system continued?

Subhi al-Tufayli: The Maronites had all the power before the 1975 civil war and the rest, including the Muslims, had no choice but to obey them. However, they only pretended to share power with the Maronites.

In reality, the problems of Lebanon started when the Palestinians became powerful and as time went by the situation changed. Up to the time of the Israeli invasion, the Maronites, especially the Phalangists, thought that after these events they would have total control. They felt that the clashes in Lebanon would naturally lead to the success of one group and the defeat of another. But the Islamic forces stood firm and managed to kick out of Lebanon the U.S. forces, the Israelis, and the multinational forces which had come in like the crusaders. This is why the balance of power was upset in Lebanon.

The Islamic front, despite the fact that it included several groups, came on the scene as a power and the Maronites, who suffered several defeats, retreated and withdrew to areas where they are in the majority. Now the Maronites have started a new political game and have asked for and received help from some major Western and Arab countries. But despite all this their situation is very bad.

Concerning the future of Lebanon, there are many plans. Some Muslims think the status quo before 1975 should be established again. Another group believes that before 1975 power was in the hands of the Maronites and that now it is necessary for another group to take power. This means that we would move from one

factional regime to another. Still others, while not specifically saying so, hint at the partition of Lebanon. One group of Muslims wants a secular regime for Lebanon and they disregard the role of religion in the running of the country.

In face of these plans, the Hizballah has a special plan which has been outlined in an open letter. The Hizballah does not move along the lines of factions such as the Shi'ites and Sunnis and others. The Hizballah is based on Islamic principles, with its roots in the Koran and its teachings. The Hizballah is not in favor of one faction ruling Lebanon but believes that there should be Islamic justice instituted in Lebanon. This is why we are trying to convince the Lebanese people that their interests lie in Islam. Of course, we are not trying to force this upon the people but rather we are trying to convince and persuade them. This is why we invite the people to a general referendum to discover their feelings because we do not want prepackaged solutions, like those of 1943, to be imposed on the people again.

Since we do not wish to impose our thoughts on the people, we do not allow others to do so either. This is why we believe that the government of Lebanon, its type and form, should be decided by the people in a referendum. If the people of Lebanon are prepared and if they understand the truth about Islam, there is no doubt that the majority of the people will want the rule of Islam and the Koran. At this particular time we have to put all our efforts into not letting anyone impose any plans on the people. We must try to prevent pressures being put on the people to make them dislike Islam. We believe that the Lebanese, whether Muslim or Christian, have the right to determine their own fate, but in the meantime it is our duty to explain Islam to them.

Question: Western political analysts regard the Hizballah as a secret organization without any kind of structure. How do you feel about this?
Abu Hisham: The idea of the Hizballah is unknown to the West and to others somehow involved in Lebanon. They do not understand the fact that Muslims can, without being allied to any power or having any conventional party ideologies, rise in a holy war against their enemy. The movement of the Lebanese believers in the form of the Hizballah in defense of their dignity, their religion, and their country is for many incomprehensible. But we are not worried that others have problems understanding us. Quite the opposite; we are pleased because this gives us more freedom of action.

Question: Are you unhappy about the clashes between Amal and the Palestinians in the camps?
Abu Hisham: The Hizballah's opposition to the clashes between Amal and the Palestinians does not mean we approve of 'Arafat's compromise-seeking path. This path follows the same route as Mubarak, Saddam, and King Husayn, and in general the Camp David line of thought, which is one of compromise with Israel and the United States. But this issue does not mean an acceptance of clashes with the Palestinians. Killing women and children in the camps is in no way acceptable to us.

We oppose 'Arafat with full force, but with the same force we shall stand alongside the Palestinian people and we see nothing in common between opposing 'Arafat and killing Palestinians.

Question: Nabih Birri has said that the reason why they are fighting the Palestinians is because 'Arafat wants to bring back to Lebanon the situation which prevailed before the Israeli invasion in 1982. What does this mean and where do you think the Palestinians should be?
Abu Hisham: I think what he means is that before the Israeli invasion, 'Arafat thought of himself as ruler of Lebanon and he considered this as his turf, and the Palestinians, with this idea in their heads, clashed with the people of Lebanon. 'Arafat wanted to deepen the rifts between the (?believers) and the Palestinians; the behavior of many Palestinians was a direct result of this. 'Arafat did not want to see the faithful and the Palestinians join forces to fight against Israel. This became clear in light of 'Arafat's latest actions. In any case, the Palestinians cannot be in Tunis or Yemen. They must be beside occupied Palestine in the bunkers of resistance aginst Israel. In our belief any other solution would not be acceptable.

Question: Do you mean that Lebanon should continue to be one of the centers of Palestinian resistance?
Abu Hisham: Yes, Lebanon and other places... the Palestinians must be in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and the Gaza Strip to continue their fight.

Question: You are here in Iran on behalf of an organization which has been established in Lebanon by the oppressed people. What are your relations with Iran and on what issues do you agree?
Al-Tufayli: Our relations with the Islamic revolution is one of a junior to a senior. We think it is the duty of all Muslims to keep their relations with the Islamic revolution and its leader, Imam Khomeyni. Their relations should be that of a soldier to his commander. Their goals should be to coordinate their programs with those of the Islamic revolution and to coordinate their actions with those that are beneficial to Islam, as outlined by Imam Khomeyni.

In accordance with this we are always in touch with the authorities of the Islamic Republic. We think these contacts are important, especially with regard to the Israeli withdrawal from a large part of Lebanon and to the new plans to force a compromise on Lebanon. We have come to Iran to discuss with the Iranian authorities the continuing struggle against Israel and the world aggressors, and to discuss help for the oppressed people in Lebanon. So far our views have been the same as the Iranians and we see no differences of opinion.

Question: Are your relations with Iran simply political?
Al-Tufayli: Our relations with Iran are not just political, because so far the Islamic Republic has given a large amount of aid to the poor in Lebanon and it has established many organizations which always help the poor people of Lebanon in face of the disasters that they have had to face. In the military field, everyone knows that at the start of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon Iran sent a group of revolutionary guards to Lebanon. Although they did not enter directly into combat with the enemies of the Islamic revolution, they took over a training role for the Lebanese people and they are still carrying out their duties in a good manner. This training given to the Revolutionary Guards has been the main source of strength for our forces.

Tehran Comments on New Egyptian Cabinet

LD081714 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1055 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A commentary on an introduction of the new Egyptian cabinet is today's last political commentary. 'Ali Lutfi was sworn in yesterday as Egypt's new prime minister. In the course of his speech and contrary to what he had previously claimed, he stated that his cabinet is an economic-directed one which will embark on solving economic problems. Among the new 33-member cabinet introduced by the new Egyptian prime minister, the majority of the ministers of the previous cabinet have retained their positions and the only changes involve a number of ministers who were heading ministries related to the social and services sectors. Included among these ministries are the ministers of housing, culture, education and training, and health.

The social problems of the Egyptian Government as a whole concern housing and culture, to the point that in recent years, the housing crisis has transformed from a social to a political issue. Several demonstrations took place in Cairo with people protesting against the housing situation and the dangerous condition of old houses, thereby threatening the lives of the poor and deprived strata. These demonstrations last year forced the dependent government of Egypt to set up a new ministry called the Housing Ministry, but, taking note of the nature of the Egyptian regime, no effective steps have been taken in this area. The new cabinet intents to deal with the housing situation but it is not clear if the population growth of Egypt — which is estimated to stand at a rate of more than 1 million per annum — is taken into consideration, or whether the cabinet will achieve any success.

Cultural problems have also given the Egyptian regime some appreciable difficulties. Cultural decadence and the prevalence of corruption and malpractice at high levels -- which is generally enhanced by the Egyptian regime in the form of the promotion of the decadent Western culture -- have resulted in arousing the anger of Egyptian Muslims, comprising 40 million people. In the last few years, Egyptian drivers, as a sign of wanting Islamic law and opposing the policies of the government, have placed stickers on their cars, saying: "There is no God but Allah" and "Muhammad is the prophet of Allah." This action of the Muslim people of Egypt as a form of resistance against the regime, gave rise to anxieties among Egypt's rulers to the point that they embarked on an open confrontation with these Islamic activities.

Notwithstanding these problems, economic difficulties, such as inflation, are making the Egyptian Muslims suffer. Poverty is seen quite openly in Egypt, and 'Ali Lutfi, the new Egyptian prime minister has stated that his cabinet is one that is economically directed and will try to solve economic problems.

While this claim is being made, even now several points of contradiction between speech and practice can be observed. First, the officials responsible for economic affairs have retained their positions and the ministers of economics and agriculture are members of the new cabinet just as before. Second, it is being said that as of now, the new cabinet intends to lower the level of its subsidies to cut costs. Of course the elimination of subsidies has been considered in the foodstuff and heating sectors, the negative and harmful effects of which will be born directly by the people and will increase the pressure on the Egyptian masses.

The new Egyptian Government has also declared that there will be changes in foreign policy and that the Camp David trend will stand on top of the list of the foreign policy of this country. In any case, it appears that Husni Mubarak in the 5th year of his tenure of office in Egypt is trying to decrease the volume of internal pressures up to a point, and to find a way of paying back more than $30 billion worth of foreign debts.

Deputy Minister Outlines Reconstruction Projects

LD081238 Tehran IRNA in English 0734 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Rasht, Gilan Prov., Sept 8, IRNA — With allocation of 80 billion rls [rials] (about 800 million dlrs) to reconstruction jihad this year, a total of 5,000 rural development plans will be implemented throughout the country, deputy minister of reconstruction jihad, Mr Foruzesh told IRNA here Saturday.

On the activities of the reconstruction jihad since the victory of the Islamic revolution, Mr Foruzesh said that in addition to providing 10,000 villages with electricity and another 10,000 with drinking water, reconstruction jihad has also constructed at least 15,000 kms of rural roads during the said period.

A total of 50 billion rls (about 500 million dlrs) of the people's donations have been collected and sent for the war efforts by reconstruction jihad which also has despatched 150,000 trained specialists to the war fronts, the deputy jihad minister said.

On improved cultivation methods and also boosting the essential agricultural products by jihad, Mr Foruzesh said that about six million out of 13 million hectares of cultivable farming land has so far gone under cultivation of basic crops. Some three million hectares of this land will be covered by improved cultivation methods by jihad within the current and next year, he concluded.

Theologians Sponsor New Daily

LD061312 Tehran IRNA in English 1010 GMT 5 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 5, IRNA — A new daily, sponsored by four theolgians and calling for a halt to the expansion of government bureaucracy was distributed throughout the country Thursday morning.

In its zero edition [as received], *RESALAT* (mission) said it "abstained completely from dependency on political parties... and group confrontations".

In the editorial, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad 'Ali Share'i, a theologian called for a "genuine Islamic solution" to current issues and said if models from the Western or Eastern blocs were used, the Islamic revolution would be defeated. "The government should learn from past experiences" he said. "It should not increase its huge responsibilities but halt the expansion of its departments through giving people correct participation".

RESALAT is owned by Ahmad Azari Qomi, the Majlis (parliament) deputy from Qom and a theologian.

The decision to publish the paper was made by Azari Qomi and three others: Ayatollah Abdol Qasim Khazali, member of the Guardian Council, Hoseyn Rasti Kashani, member of the Council of Experts and Share'i.

The former minister of labour, Ahmad Tavakoli, has an article on the future government budget and Akbar Parvaresh, the former minister of education has a feature on Islamic unity. Reza Zavare'i, the Majlis deputy from Tehran, has an article on the rule of law.

RESALAT is an eight-page broadsheet with sections of domestic and foriegn news, culture, law, economy and sports.

Tehran has now two morning and two evening dailies. Over two months ago, the morning daily *SOBH AZADEGHAN*, known for its support of radical policies, was closed down due to the lack of publication permit.

In a telephone contact one *RESALAT* staff said there has been calls from provincial towns but all printed editions have already been distributed.

Turkish Spokesman Confirms Iraqi Attack on Village

LD061816 Tehran IRNA in English 1757 GMT 6 Sep 85

["Iraqi Bombardment of Turkish Village Investigated" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Ankara, Sept 6, IRNA — A spokesman for the Turkish Foreign Ministry confirmed reports about the bombardment of a Turkish village by Iraqi planes and said the Turkish Government was investigating the issue but that it did not think the attack was intentional.

In his weekly press conference, the spokesman Yalim Eralp added that officials have no reports about the casualties and other details and that the Turkish Government had not contacted the Iraqi Government on the incident yet.

The Iraqi bombardment of (Yeshilyurt) village near the Turkish-Iraqi border was reported by foreign news agencies Thursday.

Tehran Reports Iraqi Revolutionaries' Activities

GF080930 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries cut off roads linking 32 villages in Chamchamal in northern Iraq and took control of them in recent operations against the forces of the ruling regime in Iraq. Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries also launched a rocket attack on a checkpoint of the Iraqi regime's forces on the Irbil-Karkuk road. They killed three Saddamist troops and wounded four others. They also threw a grenade at a mechanized vehicle which was carrying security officials in Dahuk. They killed or wounded its occupants.

The Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries carried out other operations against the military installations of Saddam's regime in Dahuk and killed a number of the troops of the ruling Ba'thist-Zionist regime in Iraq. They destroyed a number of vehicles, one armored vehicle, and quantities of equipment.

They also attacked Barkiyah hill which is located between Sarsand and Al-'Amadiyah and which has special strategic importance. They killed or wounded a number of troops of Saddam's regime and captured quantities of arms and equipment belonging to the forces of the ruling regime in Iraq.

The Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries also launched an attack on the police headquarters in Dahuk and inflicted losses on the Saddamist forces.

Construction Minister on Projects in Kurdish Areas

LD070822 Tehran IRNA in English 0747 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Mahabad, E. Azarbayjan Prov., Sept. 7, IRNA — Construction Jihad Minister Bijan Zangeneh said here Friday that while foreign enemies of the Islamic revolution try to foment unrest among the Kurds by instigating them against the Islamic government, the government has been investigating a large portion of its efforts on welfare and public utility projects for the Kurds of Iran.

Speaking to a large audience of worshippers in prelude to the Friday mass prayers, he said as an example since the culmination of the Islamic revolution about 650 kilometers of paved secondary roads were built in mainly Kurdish-populated areas of Iran.

Zangeneh also said that a major preoccupation of the Islamic government has been to adopt policies for curbing emigration to towns and cities and turning on the wheels of rural economy in the interest of the rural people.

He noted that farmers and farm workers in the remote areas of the country who now enjoy public utility services such as piped water, power, and improved hygenic services are now more determined to stay in the villages and work for the economic self-sufficiency of the country.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Territory Liberated

LD081647 Tehran IRNA in English 0816 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8 IRNA — In an operation launched by Iran's Islamic combatants in the west of the country at 01:00 hours Sunday [8 Sep] (2130 GMT Saturday) some 34 sq kms of Iranian territory were liberated from enemy occupation and "high casualties" were inflicted on the enemy troops and their mercenaries.

In this successful operation the strategic Gazil height was taken over by the Iranian forces making possible connection of the Paveh-Javanrud axis. One enemy base and eight border villages were also liberated in the offensive.

A statement issued here by the Khatam ol-Anbiya Joint Headquarters of the Army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) further said that the area liberated in Sunday's operation had been under enemy occupation since the beginning of the Iraqi invasion of Iran some five years ago.

After a heavy battle with the enemy forces and counterrevolutionary groups in the region, the Islamic combatants succeeded in bringing under their control the strategic Gazil height and the border road of Nowsud-Sar-e Pol-e Zahab.

As a result of the operation, the Paveh-Javanrud axis was linked and the Markheyl base as well as eight villages in the region were liberated. Also the Iraqi city of Halabjah and the connection routes around it are now under the fire range of the Iranian forces.

180 Iraqi Casualties

LD091013 Tehran IRNA in English 1008 GMT 9 Sep 85

[Text] Bakhtaran, Sept. 9 IRNA — In a five-hour infiltration operation against Iraqi positions and fortifications in the Maymak region of Bakhtaran Province early Monday morning, at least 180 enemy troops were killed or wounded.

Enemy equipment losses in this successful operation were reported to be three munitions depots, 25 group and individual bunkers, four vehicles, four mortar launchers, 11 batteries, three observation posts, and one artillery piece.

The Iranian thrust started at 04:00 hours local time (0030 GMT) Monday with the Islamic combatants of Iran surrounding enemy positions on Height 445, from three directions, after crossing minefields and explosive traps. One company of the Al-Mossanna Commando Battalion of the 22d Division of the Second Iraqi Army was totally crushed and another sustained heavy casualties.

After the successful operation, the Islamic forces started their swift return to their main positions with heavy Iranian artillery and mortar fire pounding enemy positions. Exchange of heavy fire raged between the two sides ceaselessly until 09:00 hours local time preventing any enemy reaction.

In related news, an IRNA dispatch from Orumiyeh, W. Azarbayjan Province said Monday that the Islamic combatants of Iran had carried out another infiltration operation in the Darband region, west of Haj 'Umran in northern Iraq in the midnight Sunday. The report said that heavy casualties and losses were inflicted on the enemy forces and a number of enemy outposts were destroyed. In this operation, too the Muslim defenders crossed various obstacles and inflicted high casualties in arduous mountainous regions in Haj 'Umran.

An informed military source told IRNA that the coincidence of the two operations in the Maymak and Darband regions indicated the combat readiness of the Iranian combatants throughout the war fronts. He said by employing new military tactics, the Islamic forces succeeded in inflicting considerable equipment losses on the enemy troops in the latter operation as well. The military source said more details of the Darband operation will be released later.

Communique No 2,220

LD061749 Tehran IRNA in English 1736 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 6, IRNA — Iran's fighter-bombers during two separate operations bombarded economic and strategic centers of Iraq Friday, inflicting considerable damage and casualties on the Iraqi forces, the Joint Staff Command of the Islamic Republic Armed Forces reported here Friday.

The command in its communique number 2220 said that Iran's fighter-bombers attacked an Iraqi economic target, 245 kms deep inside Iraq in the region of Ayn Zalah early Friday morning, destroying the center completely and setting fire to the huge oil installations there. The Iranian pilots all returned safely to their bases, the command added.

In a separate operation, Iraq's radar site and military fortification in Irbil region were bombarded by Iran's fighter-bombers at 11 local time (0730 GMT) Friday as a result of which the Iraqi forces suffered substantial casualties and losses. All the pilots returned safely to their bases, the command added.

Iran's Muslim combatants traded artillery fire with the Iraqi forces in northern fronts over the past 24 hours, killing or wounding a number of Iraqi troops, and halting the activities of the Iraqi infantry units and silencing their fire, the communique said.

The communique added that during the past day, the Iraqi forces' engineering and transport activities in the central frontlines were checked by the Iranian Muslim fighters who opened fired on the Iraqi enemy, inflicting casualties on them and also destroying several bunkers and an observation post.

In southern fronts exchange of fire continued being more intense in Kushk region with the Iraqi forces suffering extensive casualties and damage, the communique said. The communique added that Iran's Gendarmerie forces opened heavy artillery fire on the Iraqi troops' positions from across the Arvand River, killing or wounding a number of Iraqi troops and devastating a group bunker and an ammunition depot of the enemy.

The city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was hit by Iraqi long-range artillery fire over the past 24 hours causing partial damage to some houses in the city, the communique concluded.

Iraqi Oil Installations Set Ablaze

LD071006 Tehran IRNA in English 0956 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Ahvaz, Khuzestan Prov., Sept. 7, IRNA — Part of Iraqi oil installations in Al-Faw was set ablaze by heavy artillery fire of Islamic combatants during the preceding 48 hours to the extent that columns of smoke caused by the fire spread over the area for several hours.

Also, casualties were inflicted upon the enemy Friday as the Islamic combatants zeroed in on over 50 kms of Abu al-Khasib front up to the industrial district of Al-Faw.

Meanwhile, the logistic routes of Al-Faw-Basra and Saybah-Sayhan were under the fire of Islamic combatants, halting the movement of Iraqi forces and inflicting casualties upon them.

Several group and individual bunkers as well as heavy and light equipment of the enemy were destroyed in Arvand River fronts and some Iraqi soldiers were killed.

Abadan, Khorramshahr Shelled 7 Sep

GF071553 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] The mercenaries of the regime ruling Iraq, over the last 24 hours, continued as usual to shell the cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr with their heavy long range artillery. According to a Central News Unit report, as a result of the shelling by the Iraqi Army's artillery, three of our Arab compatriots living in the villages around Abadan were wounded.

Tehran Cites Battle Report

LD071824 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran reports that the forces of Islam squashed enemy attempts to recapture the sensitive Hesar Dust heights and stopped the advancing Ba'thist forces in the region by opening artillery fire.

Also, the artillery fire of the combatants of Islam stationed on the northwestern and western fronts, destroyed several entrenchments and parts of enemy installations. Ninety-five Iraqi military personnel were either killed or wounded. During the past 24 hours, enemy air raids around Piranshahr, Sardasht, Mahabad, Oshnoviyeh and near Majnun Islands were repelled by the intensive fire of our forces and their planes fled the area. According to the same report, combatants of Islam on the southern fronts sank one enemy boat in (?Jufayl) region. In the past 24 hours Abadan and Khorramshahr came under sporadic enemy fire.

Communique No 2,221

LD071938 Tehran IRNA in English 1847 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept 7, IRNA — The joint staff command of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its communique number 2221 published Saturday reported that once more an Iraqi attempted offensive for capturing the sensitive heights of Hesar Dust in northern fronts was suppressed by Iran's Muslim combatants who opened fire on the Iraqi troops halting their advance.

Elsewhere in northern fronts more than 75 Iraqi troops were killed or wounded and a number of the enemy bunkers destroyed during artillery battle with the Iranian forces over the past 24 hours, the command said.

The command added that the Iranian ground-to-air heavy fire repelled Iraqi war planes violating the airspace of Sardasht, Mahabad and Oshnoviyeh in Kordestan Province, forcing the intruding Iraqi planes to flee.

In western frontlines an Iraqi offensive backed by artillery fire on Saturday was thwarted by the Iranian Muslim combatants who valiantly resisted forcing the enemy to retreat, wounding a number of them, the communique said. Elsewhere in western fronts, the communique added, exchange of artillery fire continued between the Iranian Muslim fighters and Iraqi enemy who as a result suffered 23 killed or wounded.

Meanwhile the Iraqi enemy combat and engineering operations in Kharratha region in western fronts was detected by the Iranian fighters who subjected the enemy to heavy artillery fire forcing the Iraqi units to flee, the command said.

Iraqi patrol movements in Nahr-Anbar region in southern fronts were foiled by the Iranian Muslim fighters who compelled them to flee, the communique said.

Iranian ground-to-air fire repelled some Iraqi war planes violating the air space of Chazzabeh region in southern fronts, compelling the intruding enemy planes to flee, the command said, adding that an Iraqi boat was destroyed by the Iranian fighters' fire in Jofeyr region.

Iran's Gendarmerie forces shelled the Iraqi troops' positions from across the Arvand River, killing or wounding a number of enemy troops and destroying some bunkers. Also Iraqi engineering and combat operations were halted over the past 24 hours.

The cities of Abadan and Khorramshahr in Khuzestan Province were sporadically hit by Iraq's long-range artillery fire over the past 24 hours causing slight damage to some houses in Abadan, the communique concluded.

Iraq Shells Abadan, Khorramshahr

GF081350 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] The steadfast towns of Abadan and Khorramshahr continue to be shelled by the long-range artillery units of the Ba'thist mercenaries of Iraq during the past 24 hours. According to the Central News Unit, as a result of heavy artillery shelling by the criminal mercenaries ruling Iraq, four homes in Abadan were damaged. In addition one area of Khorramshahr caught fire.

Communique No 2,222

LD081720 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its Communique Number 2222 released Sunday, reported that Iran's Muslim combatants traded artillery fire with the Iraqi forces on the regions of Marivan and

Sardasht in western Iran, and Piranshahr in W. Azarbayjan Province over the past 24 hours, killing or wounding at least 30 Iraqi troops. Also one tank, one vehicle, several bunkers and an munitions depot of the enemy were destroyed.

The Iranian Muslim fighters clashed with some Iraqi patrol units which were backed by artillery fire in a front near Qasr-e Shirin in Bakhtaran Province early Saturday. During this confrontation the Iraqi troops were forced to flee suffering considerable casualties and losses, the communique said.

Elsewhere in the central fronts, the communique added, artillery battle continued between the Iranian fighters and the Iraqi forces with the latter suffering 10 deaths. A number of their group bunkers and observation posts were destroyed as well.

In the southern fronts, the Iraqi Ba'thists suffered casualties and losses during sporadic exchange of fire with the Iranian troops in the past 24 hours, the communique said. The communique added that Iran's Gendarmerie forces subjected the concentration centers of the Iraqi troops to artillery fire from across the Arvand River during the past 24 hours, killing or wounding a number of Iraqi troops and destroying some of their bunkers.

The city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was hit by Iraq's long-range artillery fire over the past 24 hours, causing damage to four houses and wounding three civilians, the communique concluded.

Iraq's Denial of Missing POW'S Rejected

LD071534 Tehran IRNA in English 1518 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7, IRNA — Iran Saturday called on international organizations to send inspectors to Iraqi prison camps to determine the fate of 20,000 missing Iranians.

In a press conference, the head of the War Information Headquarters, Dr. Kamal Kharrazi, said that recent Iraq's denial of the presence of secret prison camps was baseless.

The Iraqi representative in the United Nations Thursday distributed a report in the world body claiming there were no civilians, women or secret POW camps inside Iraq.

Kharrazi said Iran's protest to the existence of secret POW camps was based on reports published by U.N. and Red Cross officials. Kharrazi quoted a 1985 Red Cross report that the Iraqis had refused to allow the inspection of POW camps or to reveal the number of prisoners they are holding. "Does this no mean that there are secret camps inside Iraq?" he asked.

Recently the French television, despite the strong pro-Iraqi support in Paris, aired a documentary on the presence of thousands of Iranian POW's in Iraqi POW camps. Kharrazi said Iran will soon publish documents on the mistreatment of Iranian POW's in Iraq.

The head of the WIH said Iraqi troops captured hundreds of civilians at the beginning of the war in 1980 and are still keeping them. "Iraqi claims that there are no Iranian civilians held in Iraq are baseless" Kharrazi said.

Iraq has already contradicted its claims several times by releasing civilians taken prisoner at the beginning of the war, he said. Iraq released 32 civilians aged 76-81 in May 1983 and another 149 civilians in February 1984. Many of the former prisoners were brought home on strechers or on wheelchairs. Kharrazi said there were Iranian women being kept inside Iraq. Three women released recently said there were about three hundred Iranian women in the camps.

Nejat-e Iran: Israelis Repair Phantom Jetfighters

GF081722 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] We have learned that a group of Israeli technicians have been in Tehran and Hamedan for the past 8 months, busy repairing and servicing the Iranians' Phantom jetfighters. It is being said that the regime, using spare parts stolen from United States' bases, will now be able to fly six Phantom jetfighters in the near future.

Nejat-e Iran Notes Arms Shipment to Lebanon

GF081746 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] The rulers of the Islamic regime in Iran who want to impose another disastrous Islamic republic on Lebanon, are using everything in their means to achieve their evil goals. The latest report received on this indicates that the Khomeyni regime, with a lot of propaganda, announced that it has sent a plane-load of medicine and food to the war-stricken people of Lebanon.

When this plane landed at Beirut's international airport, security officials found thousands of arms instead of food and medicines. One of Khomeyni's officials on the plane confessed that this weaponry is to help the terrorist Hizballah to create further turbulence and chaos in Lebanon. The Khomeyni official added that the Islamic Republic had confiscated these arms as a result of a crackdown on and arrest of the regime's opponents in Iran.

Nejat-e Iran on Cooperation Among Opposition Groups

GF081142 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] According to a report from Baluchestan by a Radio Nejat-e Iran roving correspondent, groups opposed to the Islamic Republic have closed their ranks and after burying their differences are now busy planning to intensify and expand their struggle.

Our correspondent, who is in constant touch with the staunch opponents to the clerics' regime in Baluchestan, reports that the printing and distribution of communiques and night posters is a part of the relentless campaign being waged against the Islamic Republic by our compatriots in Baluchestan. He adds that until recently, due to differences in viewpoints among the groups,

issuing joint communiques by various antiregime minigroups was not possible. However, this problem now has been completely overcome.

It is also being said in Baluchestan that about 10 days ago two special representatives of Reza Pahlavi, the shah of Iran, visited Baluchestan and during their 12 hour stay there held discussions and exchanged views with several heads of groups opposing the Khomeyni administration.

Reportage on Afghan Rebel Clashes With Soviets

Operations in Herat Province

LD061658 Tehran IRNA in English 1531 GMT 6 Sep 85

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., Sept. 6, IRNA — In a clash with the Soviet occupying forces and government troops in 17 areas of Herat Province in Afghanistan, Afghan Muslim revolutionaries killed or wounded 37 aggressor troops while destroying five enemy tanks.

In the fighting which took place during the past two weeks, two Afghan intelligence organization personnel were killed and 11 Afghan soldiers joined the Muslim revolutionaries with their weapons. One mujahidin commander was also martyred during the fighting.

The occupying troops, as a result of their setbacks, brought some areas of the Ghurian District under aerial, missile and long-range artillery bombardment causing the martyrdom of a number of defenseless Muslim residents and inflicting material losses.

Garrison in Paktia Province Occupied

LD071131 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] In the course of a retaliatory, defensive attack against the joint Soviet and government forces in Paktia Province, Afghan Muslim revolutionaries, inflicting heavy losses and casualties on these forces, succeeded in occupying a military garrison. A Central News Unit report, quoting dispatches received from Afghanistan, says: 10,000 to 15,000 Soviet and government troops, in order to cut off the communication roads of the Muslim revolutionaries, embarked on extensive operations in Paktia Province at the beginning of last week and after advancing 3 km were confronted with a defensive attack by the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries. After suffering 107 killed and other significant losses they were forced to retreat.

According to this report, some 300 Afghan Muslim revolutionaries took part in this counterattack in such a manner that the Soviet and government forces were caught completely by surprise.

During these operations a military garrison was occupied by the Muslim revolutionaries and a number of the armored cars of the aggressive forces were destroyed.

Operations in Farah Province

GF071603 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 7 Sep 85

[Text] The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries attacked the Bakwah Administrative district in Farah Province in West Afghanistan and destroyed 5 tanks and 10 vehicles belonging to the joint Soviet-Afghan forces.

They killed 100 members of those forces and wounded 70 others in the attack, which was launched on 23 August.

Following the attack, the Soviet occupation forces shelled the village of Peshtah in the Bakwah region in Farah Province.

Further Details

F080918 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 8 Sep 85

[Text] Afghan Muslim revolutionaries killed more than 100 Soviet troops in two military operations in Paktia Province in eastern Afghanistan.

They also destroyed more than 45 tanks, troops carriers, and other mechanized vehicles. They liberated a camp from the occupation forces.

In another military operation in Farah Province in western Afghanistan, they killed 185 joint Soviet-DRA forces and destroyed 15 tanks and troop carriers.

In battles in Panjsher Valley north of Kabul, 25 DRA troops were killed or wounded by the Muslim revolutionaries.

A number of the Karmal regime security forces were killed in an attack which the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries launched against Jalalabad in Nangarhar Province in eastern Afghanistan.